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## Korean Churches Grow Fast

The menu is different from most Southern Baptist church dinners, but traditional Korean food is a must when Los Angeles-area Korean Baptist pastors gather. Present at one of the first such meetings were (l/r) John Park, Long Beach; Don Kim, Los Angeles; Dan Moon, Memphis, Tenn.; Earnest Park, Santa Ana; Jaikyu Le, Hollywood; and Joseph Wo, Fullerton. Korean-language Baptists in the U.S. began 34 new congregations from 1973-75. (BP photo by Larry Jerden)

## Exemplary Service Award Goes To Myers

By Dan Martin

MIAMI (BP) — Lewis Myers Jr., a former foreign missionary to Vietnam, was given the first Exemplary Service Award of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's language missions department during the department's annual conference here.

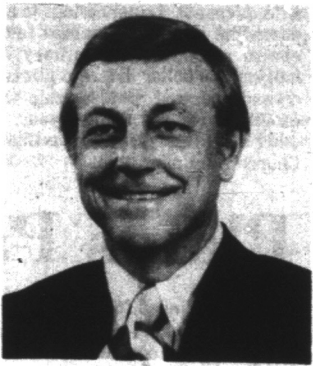
Myers is a Mississippi native.

The award — which will be given annually — is designed to give recognition to "Christians involved in meaningful service" to language missions. In presenting the award, Oscar Romo, language missions director, noted that on May 1, 1975, "We woke up aware that things were brewing for us" in Southeast Asia.

The event was the fall of Vietnam and the influx of refugees to the United States.

"We needed someone at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida to help with resettlement. We found Lewis Myers Jr., who had been a Southern Baptist missionary in Vietnam for 15 years, and was on furlough," Romo said.

Myers stayed with the refugee resettlement program throughout his furlough, assisting the Vietnamese and Southeast Asians however he could. At the end of his furlough, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board "loaned" him to the Home Mission Board for a year, which will end in June of 1977, Romo said.



Myers

The language missions director said subsequent awards will be presented in three categories. The Exemplary Service Award will be given to someone who has performed distinguished service to language missions. The Language Pastor of the Year and the Language Missionary of the Year also will be honored.

The language missions conference — in the heart of ethnic Miami, Fla. — drew language missionaries from across the nation. Part of the approach of the conference is to give people an experience in ethnic worship service and in an ethnic area.

In a presentation to the participants, (Continued on page 2)

## Sunday School Enrollment Tops 1976 SBC Statistics

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist Sunday Schools recorded the largest enrollment increase in 17 years during 1976, while total receipts, mission expenditures and church membership continued to set new Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) records, according to the annual statistical report compiled by the research services department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

The report also indicates slight increases in Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood and church music enrollments.

Decreases in 1976 were in baptisms and Church Training enrollment, according to reports received from approximately 34,600 Southern Baptist churches.

More than 7,458,000 people were included in the ongoing Sunday School enrollment in 1976, an increase of 2.4 percent over 1975. It is the fifth consecutive year Sunday School enrollment has increased, and this year's gain of 176,843 members is the largest enrollment increase since 1959.

A. V. Washburn, secretary of the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, attributed the increase to "a continually growing commitment in our churches and denomination to the importance of reaching more people for meaningful Bible study."

Washburn said that the enrollment

growth also was stimulated by ACTION, a reach out enrollment plan for Sunday Schools which has been utilized by more than 1,700 churches.

"It is also significant," Washburn commented, "that for the first time in many years, the increase in Sunday School enrollment almost paralleled the growth in church membership. This is most wholesome, and if it continues, larger gains in baptisms, Christian growth and discipleship should follow."

Total SBC receipts climbed to a new high of \$1,645,959,837 in 1976, an increase of 11.5 percent over last year's total of \$1.47 billion.

Mission expenditures jumped 10.4 percent for a total of \$262,373,823 in 1976. Last year's figure was \$237,617,406. The average mission expenditure in 1976 was \$20.30 for each church member, compared to \$18.66 in 1975.

Church membership gained 186,942 members for a total of 12,922,605, an increase of 1.5 percent over the 1975 total of 12,735,663.

The number of baptisms in 1976 fell below 400,000 for the first time in five years with 384,496. The 1975 total of 421,809 baptisms was the third highest figure in SBC history.

Church Training's ongoing enrollment dropped 1.9 percent in 1976 to 1,850,406, compared to 1,886,177 last year. The 1976 figure does not include

more than 347,000 persons involved in New Member Training, Church Leader Training and short-term member training projects.

Both Church Training and Sunday School reported significant increases in the number of young adults enrolled.

Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) — for women and girls) added more than 5,400 members to its ongoing enrollment in 1976 for a total of 1,139,034. The ongoing Southern Baptist

Brotherhood (for men and boys) enrollment gained 2,979 members for a total of 478,981. An additional 12,000 persons were involved in short-term missions projects during the year.

Church music's ongoing enrollment reached 1,372,596 in 1976, an increase of 1.3 percent over the 1975 total.

A total of 394 new or reorganized churches was reported in 1975, compared to a loss of 223 churches. The net gain of 171 increased the total number (Continued on page 2)

## Plains Pastor Quits During Firing Move

PLAINS, Ga. (BP) — Bruce Edwards resigned his pastorate at Plains Baptist Church here after a segment of the church apparently maneuvered to fire him.

Edwards said the move was generated by those who never accepted his efforts to drop racial barriers at the church after blacks sought admission to the church during the presidential campaign when the church's most prominent member, Jimmy Carter, now a member of First Baptist Church, Washington, was seeking office.

He told Baptist Press he will be on a salaried leave of absence until April 30. He has no immediate plans about his future course of action, although he says he is "still committed to the pastorate."

"I had no intention of resigning when I went into that meeting," the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary graduate said. "It was a special conference the church called to deal with another matter — an outstanding debt."

He said his resignation came after what he called "a long and bitter discussion," which followed an unexpected but apparently carefully planned motion that he be fired. He said no charges were brought against him but that he was told he had lost his effectiveness.

"I finally decided to just hang it up, and I gave my resignation," Edwards said. "I doubt that I would reconsider even if the church asked me to. There's just too much ill will. But I do think the church should be allowed to act to reverse it so it won't let a handful run the church. That's what happened Sunday."

He said he did not feel the action represents the feelings of most of the church. He said many members were absent and that the opposition had brought in a number of members who had never seen during his two years as pastor.

"Nothing else I'm doing is getting this type of increase in baptisms," Williams added.

Williams attributed the increase in baptisms to a continuing intensive Christian witnessing effort by lay people.

"Lay people are making a deeper commitment to themselves, to other Christians, and to the Lord. That's opening these persons up to a normal and natural Christian witness."

"The general health of the church improves. People start getting along with each other better." (Continued on page 2)

## Renewal-Involved Churches Report Increased Baptisms

FRESNO, Calif. (BP) — Baptisms are up an average of 20 percent among Southern Baptist churches involved in lay renewal evangelism in California.

That's the report of Harry Williams, director of evangelism for California Southern Baptists, who has just completed a three year study of baptisms among the 900 churches in the state.

Williams said the churches participating in renewal reported an increase in baptisms of 21.4 percent the first year, 17.5 percent the second, and 22.7 percent the third.

By contrast, churches not in renewal reported an average increase in baptisms of 2.7 percent during the same

period, Williams added.

Diving deeper into the study, Williams reported that churches which did change pastors during the renewal emphasis showed an even greater increase. Baptisms in those churches were up 25.4 percent the first year, 23.6 the second, and 40.5 the third.

Fifty-five Southern Baptist churches in California began participating in renewal the last three years, Williams said.

Another 35 churches will begin similar evangelistic efforts this year, he indicated.

## SBC Will Consider \$63.4 Million Budget

By Don McGregor

The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention last week gave its approval for another record budget for the convention to consider and proposed changes in the convention's constitution to make it of neuter gender rather than masculine.

The convention in Kansas City in June will vote on the revisions which take out all masculine references throughout the document and replace them with references of neuter gender.

The total proposed for the 1977-1978 budget is \$63.4 million. The basic operating budget would be \$54 million, and a capital needs increment of \$1,000,000 would raise it to \$55,000,000.

Additionally there is being proposed a bold advance budget of \$8,320,000 to raise the total to the \$63.4 million figure.

The basic operating budget is roughly 10 percent above that for 1976-1977, and to a great extent the 19 allocations for next year are about 10 percent above this year's figures. The SBC operates on a program budgeting basis, however, and requests for funds for next year which faced the Program Committee of the Executive Committee amounted to some \$60 million.

Members of the Executive Committee other than the Program Committee had not seen the budget figures prior to their presentation, and this touched off a brief discussion of the logistics of budget development, presentation, and adoption.

The Executive Committee will recommend to the Southern Baptist Convention that the 1978 convention be in Los Angeles, Calif., and it also asked its staff to develop a pre-registration procedure to be implemented for the convention in Kansas City in 1977 and in Atlanta in 1978 on a trial basis.

The Executive Committee elected the editor of The Baptist Record, Don

McGregor, to serve as one of three Baptist state paper editors on the 15-member SBC Public Relations Advisory Committee. He was one of five persons elected with terms expiring in 1980.

The retirement plan of the Executive Committee staff was adjusted to provide 1 1/2 percent of salary per year multiplied by the years of service, applied to the average of the five highest years. The total is not to exceed 42 1/2 percent of the average of the five highest years in any case. An explanation stated that this would add about 8 percent of an employee's salary to be put into retirement funds. A question asking why 8 percent instead of 10 percent during the time of nationwide promotion of 10 percent of the salary for retirement was answered by explaining that the Executive Committee staff is on a different program.

A salary base spread of 40 percent instead of the present 30 percent from base to maximum was authorized effective Oct. 1.

Evaluation documents for formal salary review purposes were authorized.

The convention in 1974 in Dallas established a committee of seven persons to study the Executive Committee and its work and also to study a possible name change for the convention and report back in 1975 in Miami Beach. The committee reported only on the name change in 1975, recommending that it not be changed. The report on the Executive Committee came at the Norfolk convention in 1976. The Executive Committee in September appointed a committee to draft a response and report back in February with its conclusions. The committee reported, but again Executive Committee members felt they had not had the material long enough to make a decision and tabled the report on its

first night of meeting. On the second night the Executive Committee postponed action until the pre-convention meeting in Kansas City in June.

The Executive Committee adopted suggested guidelines for retirement plans for SBC agencies, the Executive Committee, and convention auxiliaries that would call for full vesting after 10 years of continuous denominational service, which would include service with any SBC church, association, state convention, or SBC agency or auxiliary.

Authorization was given for New Orleans Seminary to borrow up to \$1 million for construction of student and faculty housing and to purchase adjacent land. (Continued on page 2)

## Bible Belt Is Shifting

LAWRENCE, Kans. (EP) — The "Bible Belt" of America, a term coined by H. L. Mencken a generation ago to describe the Midwest, has shifted about 1,000 miles to the south, a University of Kansas geology professor contends.

David Shortridge, in an article published by the Geographical Review, said the "buckle" of the belt is in Jackson, Miss. He based his observation on research gathered during a two-year study.

"Mencken, if one reads his writings, particularly hated the Southern Baptists and Methodists," Shortridge said. "I think the Methodists have changed from very conservative to the liberal side. And I think that's carried Kansas with it."

The professor predicted that the South will become more liberal religiously because of the election of Jimmy Carter as President.



**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR HOME MISSIONS**  
**MARCH 6-13, 1977**  
**ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING**  
**NATIONAL GOAL \$11,250,000.00**



## Mrs. LBJ Lauds Broadcasters During Abe Lincoln Awards

FORT WORTH (BP) — Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, former First Lady of the United States, told leading industry broadcasters from across the nation gathered here that communications "in the broadest sense" has been a major thread in the pattern of her days.

She was awarded the Southern Baptist Radio and Television's Distinguished Service Medal at the Eighth Annual Abe Lincoln Awards for broadcasters, sponsored by the commission.

Mrs. Johnson, the first woman to receive the medal, was cited because of her ability to communicate her continuing concern for the people of this country, an agency spokesman said.

Mrs. Johnson said she indulges herself somewhat these days with "more time for her children and grandchildren." But she is not about to give up her civic activities.

"Lyndon taught me to always be active. Life is so full, and there is so much work to be done."

Speaking at the awards ceremony, she said broadcasting is an industry which has "vastly widened the horizons for us all."

She entered the industry in 1942 with an Austin, Tex., radio station "housed in three dusty upstairs rooms with nine employees and, — as soon as it was possible after World War II to get steel for the tower" — in 1952 built and put on the air a television station, also in Austin.

Alluding briefly to her life in the White House, she said, "As a congressional wife I had always been in awe of the White House. But when I found myself living there and having that podium, one of my main desires was to communicate to the public my concern about the environment."

"If there are more green spaces today in our cities, less polluted air and water, cleaner highways, more parks and wilderness areas for recreation and self-renewal, the communications industry deserves much of the credit."

"Your documentaries and news shows helped move the problems from the theorists to the activists, and I want to take this occasion to thank you."

Referring to the Johnson Presidential Library in Austin, she said such a library is "visual adventure in the history of the recent past. It communicates in pictures, film and displays of rare documents and in the raw materials of history. Television and radio are vivid purveyors of history. No one can underestimate the power of such communication."

Grand Ole Opry comedian Jerry Clower, a Baptist layman from Yazoo City, Miss., was awarded the commission's Christian Service Award for "using every forum afforded him, on stage and off, to represent Christ effectively and without reservation." Clower declared, "I'll do everything I can to keep on deserving this award."

## Seminary Extension Sets Five-Year Objectives

NASHVILLE (BP) — The administrative committee of the Seminary Extension Department (SED) of the Southern Baptist theological seminaries heard reports on the department's 1976 growth and approved five-year objectives and annual emphases for 1977-82.

The committee, made up of presidents of the six seminaries, also met in conjunction with the SED's curriculum committee, made up of seminary faculty representatives.

The curriculum committee approved plans for advanced diplomas requiring 16 additional courses beyond the 16-course diplomas in pastoral ministries and educational ministries the SED now offers through extension and home study programs.

SED director, Raymond M. Rigdon, commenting on approval of the five-year goals and annual emphases, said:

"By focusing on a different segment of the Seminary Extension Department's constituency during each year for five years, we hope to design or improve our on-going system of reaching members of that target group and to involve in training a record number of persons in each target group."

Eleven objectives approved include objectives to increase denominational awareness among pastors, churches, and state and SBC denominational leaders about the value of Seminary Extension; focus on special groups; improve the department's ability to deliver its extension and home study materials; and give assistance to other Baptist agencies within the framework of its program statement.

Special focus groups include educationally disadvantaged pastors, language-group and black pastors, lay persons, and seminary alumni.

Annual emphases involve special focusing on pastors of minority group churches, 1977-78; bi-vocational pastors, 1978-79; critical periods in ministry, 1979-80; theological training for lay leaders, 1980-81; and continuing

I'll try to make the Lord and you proud of me."

Frank U. Fletcher of Washington, D. C., accepted the commission's Abe Lincoln Rail Splitter Award for his father, A. J. Fletcher, a Baptist layman from Raleigh, N. C.

Fletcher was cited for his pioneer efforts in broadcasting, for his leadership in truth in advertising, and for contributing to the "highest standards in the industry."

Mrs. Grover C. Cobb of Falls Church, Va., accepted the commission's first Vicent T. Wasilewski Founder's Award, presented posthumously to her husband for his contributions to improving broadcasting's image in the eyes of the public.

Wasilewski, president of National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), for whom the Founder's Award is named, noted the effectiveness of the Abe Lincoln Awards program in the broadcast industry.

## SSB Labels Mislabeling Charge As "Ridiculous"

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention's Sunday School Board has labeled as "ridiculous" a charge by a company in Roanoke, Va., that the board is mislabeling choir robes.

Bentley & Simon, a manufacturer of choir and pulpit robes, has filed an \$800,000 suit against the Sunday School Board, according to news reports.

The suit in U. S. District Court in Roanoke alleges that the board, although it ceased buying Bentley & Simon robes in 1976, still advertises them as such. It further alleges that the board, by using the phrase "quality tailored by Bentley & Simon," is "defrauding and misleading the public by palming off unauthorized robes not tailored by the plaintiff."

Bentley & Simon legal action asks that the board be forbidden to advertise robes as made by the plaintiff, withdraw all such references in church supply catalogs, and remove all Bentley & Simon labels from products in its inventory. Sunday School Board President Grady C. Cothen, commenting that the board's "knowledge of this entire affair has been derived from the public press and by our attorney from their attorney," had this comment:

"The Sunday School Board for years purchased robes from Bentley & Simon until the company was acquired by the Oak Hall firm."

"By agreement with Oak Hall, we were to sell our remaining stock with the Bentley & Simon label in the robes. No robes of any kind have been sold by the Sunday School Board except with the label intact."

"If the Bentley & Simon robes are inferior, as reportedly charged in the

"When the Baptist Radio-TV Commission established these awards to spotlight good things in the industry, it also established the commission's credibility with us. Now because of this credibility, when Paul Stevens, Radio-TV Commission President, raises a serious objection to something within the industry he is more readily heard."

Wasilewski, Federal Communications Commissioner (FCC), Robert E. Lee, and Willard Walbridge of Capital Cities Communication, Corp., in Houston, Tex., were three of the leading broadcasters who first supported the Abe Lincoln Awards program nationally.

Robert A. "Bob" White, vice president and station manager of KIII-TV, Corpus Christi, Tex., received the top Abe Lincoln Television Award. Elmo I. Ellis, vice president and general manager of WSB-Radio, Atlanta, received the Abe Lincoln Radio Award.

complaint, it is the responsibility of the manufacturer. It is ridiculous to imply that the Sunday School Board would mislabel choir robes," Cothen continued.

"In editing copy of the catalog of one distributor, the editor failed to delete two mentions of the Bentley & Simon name. Insofar as we are able to ascertain, this represents an error of the Sunday School Board. The charge of fraud as reported by the public press is preposterous," Cothen said.

He said the board had "not been served with a complaint" as of Feb. 21.

A hearing on the suit, which alleges violations of common law and U. S. trademark laws, will be held before Judge James Turk at an undetermined date in Roanoke. An earlier announced date of March 2 has been postponed, a board spokesman said. Bentley & Simon is seeking \$200,000 in compensatory damages and \$600,000 in punitive damages.

## Christians In Thai Prison Teaching Bible To Prisoners

BANGKOK, Thailand — Three Christians, who are in prison here while awaiting trial, are holding Bible studies, using this opportunity to be witnesses for Christ to their fellow inmates.

These men are in jail for their part in the shooting death of a man whom one of them shot, apparently in self-defense. The man he shot had killed one man's brother and was going to shoot all of them, according to Southern Baptist Missionary Press Representative Maxine (Mrs. Robert R.) Stewart.

The police arrived at the scene of the shooting and took all three of them into custody.

While awaiting trial, they are actively witnessing and holding a Bible class, even though they are isolated from the other prisoners. They wrote a letter back to their home church and told about the interest of some of the prisoners in hearing the gospel. The little church sent 300 baht (\$15.00) for Southern Baptist Missionary Jack L. Martin to "buy Bibles, notebooks, pencils and whatever else those men

these personal experiences, we intend to provide people with insight that will allow them to determine intelligently whether or not Christ can fill a void in their lives, as he has for so many others," Elder said.

Other noted individuals unveiling Living Proof testimonies include Miss Teenage America Rebecca Ann Reid, Country and Western singer Connie Smith, Rosargentina Pinel, Consul General of the Republic of Honduras, San Antonio, Tex., Pauline Bernal, former band leader, and Antonio Mendoza of the U. S. Office of Equal Employment.

The media campaign is designed to support the evangelistic efforts of various groups and organizations in 4,400 Baptist congregations across the state. L. L. Morris, chairman of Living Proof and director of evangelism for Texas Baptists, explains that the local church is at the heart of this movement.

One plan for enhancing public attention includes urging mayors of cities and towns throughout Texas to lend civic recognition to the program by proclaiming "Good News Week." A period focusing on sharing the gospel, Good News Week would correspond with the beginning of the media campaigns in North, South and West Texas.

## Annuity Board Launches Plan, "Route 10"

DALLAS, Texas — "Route 10," a promotional campaign of the Annuity Board, SBC, was officially launched during the pension agency's 50th trustee meeting here Jan. 21.

Darold H. Morgan, Annuity Board president, told trustees "Route 10" identifies the newly approved retirement program for Southern Baptist ministers and church employees, which will be inaugurated Jan. 1, 1978.

"This is an historic action for Southern Baptists," he said. "We are excited about this new protection for our denominational people."

According to Dr. Morgan, the "Route 10" theme suggests both a means and method for ministers and church employees to use in planning retirement. The word "route" suggests the new retirement program as the way for Southern Baptists to go in building adequate benefits, while "10" refers to the minimum amount that should be put aside for retirement. Employers are asked to provide at least 10 per cent of an employee's total annual compensation (salary, housing, car, etc.) for retirement to build adequate benefits.

Besides retirement, the new church program also provides protection benefits for survivor and disability.

The state convention pays up to \$200 a year toward this protection for all ministers. The retirement portion is paid by the church.

## Statistics

(Continued from page 1)

of SBC churches to 35,073.

In a new category included in this year's statistical report, more than 2,880 Southern Baptist churches reported memberships comprised of blacks and whites.

In other new categories, more than 9,400 churches reported that the pastor has employment apart from the church. A total of 786 churches reported the operation of Christian day schools for a combined enrollment of more than 96,800 students.

More than 3,370 mission Sunday Schools were operated by 1,865 churches in 1976, according to a projected figure based on a sample of churches.

## Exemplary Service Award Goes To Myers

(Continued from page 1)

Romo noted that much of the church growth movement currently in vogue puts emphasis on the giving church rather than on the receiving church.

"Many times the sending church does not take into consideration the receiving group or what it needs, only the needs of those who send," he said.

Romo noted that the Home Mission Board ministers to people in 46 languages and dialect groups and said the federal government's Department of Health, Education and Welfare currently is spending \$19,000,000 to develop materials in 68 languages and dialects.

"As we move into 'Bold Mission,' activities of the Southern Baptist Convention, we must have a modern missionary, different than we have ever had before," Romo said. "The new missionary," he said, "must be a theologian, a skilled listener, a sociologist, and a 'real strategist'."

"The new missionary also must be a writer, able to develop mission materials for the mission field... not just translations. The opportunity that is ours today may cease to exist unless Baptists provide materials designed for ethnic missions in America... materials designed to relate to the ethnic culture."

"Materials which have been developed for Americans of the Southern culture do not necessarily fit the pattern for different ethnic groups across our land."

Romo added that future missionaries also must be administrators, not manipulators, and catalysts who can make things happen.

"The future of our nation is in the hands of ethnic America," Romo continued. "Baptists can be the architects of the future if our efforts are done in the context of the gospel and not of aculturation."

Also participating in the conference were A. R. Goldie, executive director of Canadian Baptist Missions, Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec; David Morgan, a retired home mission

## Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



New York (RNS) — New York Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz has ruled that a massage parlor here which calls itself the Fellowship for Human Happiness, Inc., is definitely not a church.

The "temple" had filed as a religious corporation and was listed in city records as a church under state law, receiving tax exemption. The corporation reportedly was a front for a midtown house of prostitution and advertised "tranquility angels."

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — Christianity Today, the evangelical fortnightly published here, has urged Christians to write to the governor of California to ask that former Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver be pardoned. According to the magazine, Mr. Cleaver "now bears witness to a radical transformation of heart and life rising from his religious experience." It suggests that "perhaps the changed circumstances are such that the prosecution should drop the charges or the governor of California should issue a pardon. Other pardons have been granted recently that seem to have been based on less convincing circumstances."

Louisville (BP) — Victor A. Lester, a Baptist layman from Martinsville, Va., has pledged \$500,000 to establish and endow a chair of Christian preaching at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here. The new professorship, to be named for Lester and his wife, Louise R. Lester, brings to a full dozen the number of named faculty chairs at Southern Seminary. The half-million dollar deferred gift is the second endowed professorship to be established this academic year. The other is the Gaines S. Dobbins Chair of Church Administration.

## Plains Pastor Quits

(Continued from page 1)

"It was definitely a calculated move on the part of a certain section of the church," he said. "In November when 200 members were present, I was sustained and the 1965 resolution barring blacks was overturned. Sunday, with just over 100 members present, the motion was made to fire me."

Georgia State Senator Hugh Carter, President Carter's cousin and a deacon at the church, commenting to the press on the meeting, said, "This is by far the worst split that I have ever seen in any church anywhere in my lifetime, and frankly, I think the damage that has been done is irreparable. In my opinion, the people behind the movement to dismiss the minister crucified him, with no one giving any reasons or charges as to why he was being asked to resign."

The 1965 resolution barring "Neg-

Memphis (BP) — Charles E. Warren, Jr., 29, has been elected as associate editor of World Mission Journal, monthly mission's publication for Baptist Men of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission here, effective March 1. Warren, senior editor in the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's press office for nearly four years, succeeds Larry R. Jerden, who was elected editor of the Rocky Mountain Baptist, state Baptist newspaper for Colorado.

New York (RNS) — The News World, the morning daily newspaper published here by members of the Unification Church, has purchased the old Tiffany building for \$2.4 million for its editorial headquarters. Since it was launched Dec. 31, the newspaper has been using offices at the New York Hotel, the mission center of the Unification Church founded by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon. The newspaper began its operation with a press run of 150,000 copies but is now issuing about 40,000 copies daily, according to Mr. Trulson. The price of the paper has been reduced from 25 cents a copy to 10 cents. Many newsstands refuse to handle the newspaper. It is frequently given away at some mid-town locations.

New York (RNS) — The New York State Department of Commerce is drafting legislation to permit casino gambling in the state, allegedly to prevent loss of tourists to New Jersey which recently voted to allow casinos in Atlantic City. Charles Gillett, president of the New York City Convention and Visitors Bureau, said, "It is only a matter of time before legalized gambling spreads through all the eastern states, and that means we will have to be competitive."

roes and other civil rights agitators" was voted down by the church, Nov. 13, 1976, by a vote 120-66, in the aftermath of efforts by black activist minister Clennon King to join the church.

In Washington, the White House said Jimmy Carter, who has strongly supported Edwards and his racial stance, would have no immediate comment on the resignation.

## SBC Budget

(Continued from page 1)

cent property as it becomes available. This is expected to be income-producing property and retire the loan at no cost to the seminary. The seminary was also authorized to refurbish Carey Hall, the residence for single women, with \$125,000 from capital needs funds.

The Sunday School Board was authorized to begin publishing a new periodical to help parents and others working with teenagers. It will be *Living with Teenagers* to begin October 1978.

The basic operating budget of \$54 million would be divided as follows: Foreign Mission Board, \$26,000,000; Home Mission Board, \$10,252,965; Southwestern Seminary, \$3,427,050; Radio and Television Commission, \$2,750,000; Southern Seminary, \$2,616,704; New Orleans Seminary, \$1,938,183; Southeastern Seminary, \$1,856,910; Midwestern Seminary, \$1,189,124; Golden Gate Seminary, \$1,120,584; SBC Operating Budget, \$536,000; Brotherhood Commission, \$522,500; Christian Life Commission, \$355,000; Education Commission, \$250,000; Annuity Board, \$250,000; Stewardship Commission, \$250,000; Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, \$220,000; Historical Commission, \$200,000; Southern Baptist Foundation, \$147,500; American Seminary, \$137,500.

Capital needs funds of \$1,080,000 would be divided among Southwestern Seminary, \$673,300; Southern Seminary, \$250,000; Golden Gate Seminary, \$100,000; and Radio and Television Commission, \$56,700. The Executive Committee voted to appoint a committee of six from its membership to make proposals by January, 1978, for a new capital needs program to begin with the Cooperative Program budget year of 1978-79. The original capital needs budget plan was approved by the Southern Baptist Convention in June of 1974. Capital needs are distributed after the basic operating budget is met and before any advance funds are allocated.

Whatever portion of the bold advance funds are received above the basic operating and capital needs budgets will be prorated among the agencies, as well as the SBC Operating Budget, which includes operating costs of the SBC Executive Committee, cost of the SBC annual meeting and other items, including contributions to the Baptist World Alliance. The committee approved the Executive Committee and the BWA sharing 15 percent of any bold advance funds for the SBC Operating Budget in 1977-78.

## Renewal

(Continued from page 1)

In renewal, the pastor serves as a resource person, an equipper, Williams said.

Renewal, known as "The Journey into Lifestyle Evangelism and Ministry," is sponsored by the Brotherhood Commission's department of lay renewal and the evangelism section of the Home Mission Board, in cooperation with state Baptist conventions.

Churches generally begin their "journey" with a lay renewal weekend when visiting Christians seek to commit congregations to an examination of their spiritual condition and to spiritual growth.

Following several months of relational Bible study in small groups, the renewal program offers a ministry evangelism weekend which relates Christians to lay ministries in the church and community.

As a result, many churches are conducting lay renewal and ministry evangelism weekends, instead of revivals, Williams said.

The report did not include churches involved in renewal programs sponsored by other organizations, Williams said.

SEOUL, Korea — A special service marking the inauguration of Jimmy Carter as president of the United States was held here at Citizen's Hall.



## Royal Ambassador Pioneer Conference

"Wake Up To Your World" is the theme of the State Royal Ambassador Pioneer Conference scheduled for March 18-19, at the Jackson Hilton.

Lewis Myers, former missionary to Vietnam, will be challenging those attending to "wake up" to their responsibility in missions. A native Mississippian, Myers served with the Foreign Mission Board as missionary to Vietnam from 1960 until the fall of that country. During the summer of 1975 he worked at the Eglin Air Force Base Refugee Resettlement Center as the Southern Baptist Convention representative in the sponsorship program.

Since September 1975, Myers has been on loan from the Foreign Mission Board to the Home Mission Board as Consultant For Vietnamese Ministries in the Language Missions Department. In this capacity he works with state conventions, associations, and

local churches in developing ministries to Vietnamese persons settled in their area.

Also featured at the two-day conference will be Tom Lester of Hollywood, Calif. and Johnny Woitt of Pascagoula, Miss. Lester, best known for his role as "Eb" in the television series "Green Acres," will speak to the group Friday night and Saturday morning.

Woitt, Mississippi High School "Coach of the Year," will speak at a Saturday morning breakfast for older Pioneers (boys age 15-17) and their counselors.

"Our department has mailed information and registration forms to pastors and Brotherhood leadership in all our churches," said Paul Harrell, State Brotherhood Director. For more information contact Harrell at P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS. 39205, or telephone (601) 354-3704.

## Mississippi Workers Prepare For Summer VBS

ATLANTA, Ga. — Vacation Bible School workers from Mississippi were among representatives from five state Baptist conventions at a recent VBS Regional Institute here planning for 1977 Vacation Bible Schools.

Briarlake Church, Decatur, Ga., was host for the meeting, where over 50 state VBS consultants and special workers received orientation and training from personnel of the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville.

The institute was preparation for conducting training sessions at state and associational levels. State and associational workers then will conduct VBS training sessions for local church workers.

Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Kentucky state Baptist convention personnel were present in Decatur in

addition to the Mississippi workers.

A total of 480 persons were trained at the annual VBS Regional Institutes, which were held in Warwick, N. Y., Ridgecrest Conference Center, Atlanta, Little Rock, Phoenix, Denver, and Eugene, Ore.

Altogether, approximately 18,400 persons will be trained in the state-sponsored orientation meetings, with over 110,000 being trained in associational clinics.

Enrollment in Vacation Bible School during the summer of 1977 is expected to be near 3.5 million, making VBS one of Southern Baptists' most significant outreach methods.

## Christian Action

## Family Life Enrichment Conference April 4, 5 At Alta Woods, Jackson

The Christian Family: A Circle of Love will be the theme of the Mississippi Family Life Enrichment Conference, according to J. Clark Hensley, executive director, Christian Action Commission, which is sponsoring the conference. All the sessions will be at Alta Woods Church, Jackson.

Joe Hinkle, secretary, Family Life Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, will bring the keynote address on Monday evening, followed by age group conferences for the entire family.

John Howell, Dean, Midwestern Seminary, and professor in family life, will lead the pastors in a Bible study on the family, beginning on Monday night

This column is a new venture on the pages of the Baptist Record. It will be here each week through the generosity of the editor who recognizes that the tasks assigned to the writer covers the whole spectrum of Baptist work around the world. It will be a voice for the missions task as mandated by the Master. Missions participation is not optional but central in the command of Christ. It was to His followers, organized into churches, that Christ gave the order to go into all the world preaching, baptizing, and teaching new believers how to follow His commandments.

As a denomination of churches we have done a good job but we can do better. We must do better if we are to successfully face the challenge of the next double decade. In this time span we are committed as a body of believers to sharing the gospel message with every living soul in every country across the world. It almost blows the mind to even try to think in such proportions, but this is our task. We have agreed to try. We cannot attempt less!

Our task involves every believer and every church. It involves cooperation for no individual or church can do this task alone. It involves meaningful commitment, for "business as usual" will fail to provide the necessary resources.

The task involves faith, for often God's people and prophets have, at least to the world, acted to undertake unachievable projects. It involves dependence on God, for only through His leadership and power can impossible missions be accomplished.

At some time in every persons life comes a call to link his heart and hands to a task that is beyond his ability to comprehend or perhaps hope to full achieve. The task cries out for more than he is prepared to give. Yet he knows the task is right and proper and he dares not fail to involve himself to the maximum.

Traveling recently in Southern Africa I saw the largest elephants I had ever seen. They thunder through the forest leaving devastation in their path. One of these huge animals can move enormous weight. In this same area, however, I saw another spectacle that captured my attention. Ant hills as large as many modern living rooms, and just as tall, were scattered across the land. Even with modern machinery, farmers plow around them, they are so large. One huge black elephant can move much weight, but many small ants working together can also move much weight! We have a heavy task ahead that calls for every one of us to stand faithfully as leaders and members of local congregations. We must all pray, work, give, and go as the Lord calls. No nation on earth has been so blessed as has America. A rich and bountiful land, a unique religious heritage, a compassion for the spiritual needs of fellow human beings, and a freedom to respond places us in a serious and responsible position.

The door of unusual opportunity has again opened to Southern Baptists and we must not fail to enter through it. Beyond this door are millions who can hear and respond to Christ and His way of life.

Recently during the national Watergate crisis, the networks had offered the denomination airtime to speak to the nation. A committee of the SBC Executive Committee looking for the funds to provide the tapes, reported that no money was available and the tapes were never made. A layman who listened to that discussion for funds said to me, "If the committee had had only 25 cents more from each Southern Baptist they could have granted every request for funds made in that room today." What a tragedy!

If we as a denomination fail to respond to the new open door, are we worthy of God's continued trust and blessings? There will be no great unilateral response to this challenge and opportunity. Each pastor, deacon body, finance committee, and congregation must, under the lordship of Jesus Christ, dedicate themselves and their gifts to world witness now.

Will you be the leader, the spokesperson in your church for a serious effort to respond for a seeking Saviour to the lostness of the world?

By John Alexander  
Director, Stewardship Department

## Church Training

## Encounter For Children Set In Six Miss. Cities

A.V.I.P. (Very Important Person) Encounter for Children in Church Training for all pastors, educational directors, vocational children's workers, and other church staff members will be held over the state March 14, 15, 16. It is sponsored by the Church Training Department.

The one-day conference, beginning at 10:15 a.m., concluding at 2:00 p.m., will be held in six places. Those planning to attend should choose one of the following places and make reservation for a free lunch: Jackson, Broadmoor, March 14; Columbus, First, March 15; Tupelo, First, March 14; Meridian, Baptist Center, March 15; Hattiesburg, First, March 16; Greenwood, First, March 16.

Miss Ethel McIndoo, Consultant, Church Training Department from Nashville and Mrs. John Hammatt, special worker and curriculum writer, also from Nashville, will lead the sessions.

The conference will provide a "different" kind of experience for staff workers. It will include "hands on" kinds of activities to show how Children's Church Training curriculum materials are designed to help children become better acquainted with Baptist beliefs, everyday Christian living, Christian history, and the work of the church.

Reservations may be made to Miss Evelyn George, Church Training Department, Box 530, Jackson, 39205.

## Sunday School

## Youth Leader Confab Set For April 29-30

All church leadership in youth Sunday School work is invited to a conference on April 29-30 in Jackson.

The 1977 Mississippi Conference on Youth Sunday School Work will begin Friday evening at 5 p.m. and conclude Saturday at 4 p.m.

Special sessions offered during the workshop include such topics as: "The Spiritual Development of a Leader of Youth," "Bible Learning Activities," and "How Youths Learn." Plus, a number of successful ideas and projects for reaching youth will be pre-

Faculty for the conference are Janet Burton, Austin, Tex.; B. J. Dean, Mobile, Ala.; and Dan and Barbara Kent, Plainview, Tex.

The annual event is sponsored by the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Meeting place for the conference will be announced later.

For further information, contact Larry Salter, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205. Salter is a consultant for youth work in the Sunday School Department.

## Choir Festivals Set On Seminary Campuses

NASHVILLE — In an effort to help more choirs participate, the 1977 Southern Baptist Convention Youth Choir Festivals will be held on the campuses of four Southern Baptist seminaries across the United States.

The festivals, sponsored by the church music department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, are scheduled on the following campuses: Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, July 18-21; Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., July 25-28; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, Aug. 1-4; and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Aug. 8-11.

In the past the festivals have been held at Ridgecrest (N.C.) and Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Centers.

There will be three categories of difficulty in the festivals—category I for junior high choirs only; category II, easy to medium; and category III, medium to difficult.

To attend a festival, a choir must participate in associational district and/or state competition, providing such festivals are available.

Each of the four festivals will be led by a worship leader and a choral clinician. At Southwestern will be Douglas Ezell, assistant professor of New Testament and Joe King, associate professor of church music education, both from Southwestern Seminary. Leaders for the festival at Golden Gate Seminary will be Steve Carlton, dean of students at California Baptist College, and Ron Bostic, instructor of church music, Golden Gate Seminary. Wilbur Swartz, professor of preaching, New Orleans Seminary, and Paul Hall, associate professor of music, Samford University, will be at New Orleans Seminary, while Peter Rhea Jones, associate professor of New Testament interpretation, and Phil Landgrave, professor of church music, both from Southern Seminary will be the leaders for the festival at Southern Seminary.

Deadline for registration, which is \$25 per person, is April 15. Each church group is responsible for its own lodging. A registration brochure is available from the church music department, Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

## Model Conference To Support Bold Mission

GLORIETA, N. M. — A model Associational Bold Mission Bible Conference will be at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center May 9-13, to help Baptist, state and associational leaders plan mission conferences during 1977-79. The conference scheduled will be directed by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School department to support the convention-wide mission emphasis, "Let the Church Reach Out—Bold Mission." A similar conference will be held April 18-22, at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

## Missions Fair Gives Full Picture Of Work

Knowing that a World Missions Conference was coming to Leflore County, Helen Johnson, wife of M. C. Johnson, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Greenwood, developed the idea of a World Mission Fair.

Several months ago, Mrs. Johnson asked the church council for permission to put on a World Mission Fair in the church. Then she asked the Sunday School director to assign classes to erect booths representing different countries. She gave each a folder with a stack of related mission material she had been collecting over the past few years.

The church ended up with 20 foreign countries represented, two booths on home missions, one on agricultural missions, and one on careers in missions.

The church held open house for the association at the beginning of the World Missions Conference and ended the week with a church-wide international covered dish luncheon.

Besides speaking at a number of churches in the association, the missionaries gave talks to between 6-7,000 children in both public and private schools, according to Mrs. Johnson who is associational WMU director. Cabaniss, missionary to Sellers Home in New Orleans, spoke an hour each to five home economics classes in one school about the importance of girls

being strong in their decision-making process. Don White spoke five hours to history classes.

In addition, one whole elementary school marched through the church's exhibits with Huron Polmae explaining the purpose of missions to them.

The large Home Missions booth included detailed reports on various phases of home missions work such as: deaf, resort, migrant, and several language groups. One young woman as she filed her report, was quoted as saying, "Why, I had no idea we were doing all this."

Mrs. Johnson said materials for the fair cost less than \$50.



Mexican exhibit was typical of the amount of work that went into the missions fair.

at 7:45. This Bible study will continue on Tuesday with four sessions led by Howell.

Other special emphases will be: Programming a Family Ministry, The Deacon's Family Ministry, Twentieth Century Parenting, The Church's Ministry to Senior Adults, Ministry to Single Adults and Marriage Enrichment.

## Church Architecture

## Church Building Conferences To Be Four Days In April

Church Building Conferences for April have been planned by Dennis E. Conniff, Jr., Consultant for Church Architectural Services. These are to be April 11 — North Greenwood Church, Greenwood; April 12 — First Church, West Point; April 18 — East McComb Church, McComb; and April 19 — Main Street Church, Hattiesburg.

These will be held each day from 1 to 5:30 p.m.

These conferences will follow the theme "Answers to Your Questions in Planning and Building" and would be helpful to pastors, staff members, and members of Planning and Building Committees.

Assisting Conniff in these conferences will be four pastors who have led their churches to relocate; an architect; and a structural engineer.

Suppliers of materials used in building and furnishing churches will be available with samples and answers.

Eastside Church, Rankin County, will hold dedication services on March 6 at 11 a.m. for their new sanctuary. Howard Benton, pastor at the church for 15 years, will be the featured speaker.

The sanctuary is the third phase of the church's building program. The cost of its construction and furnishings amounted to \$275,000.

On a Sunday afternoon in April of 1927, a group of workers from Calvary, Jackson, went over into East Jackson to witness. They found no church, not even a Sunday School. They made preparation for a meeting on the following Sunday in the home of Mrs. Bob Dixon. A Sunday School was organized and it grew rapidly. By the summer of 1927 it had outgrown Mrs. Dixon's parlor. A small storehouse on old Highway 80 was secured as a meeting place.

After about a year the storehouse was sold and the congregation met in the home of Mrs. M. G. Burnham until the summer of 1930. Then the Sunday School began to meet in the Eastside Lumber Company's shed on Highway 49. Eastside Church (formerly called the Bethlehem Church) was organized on September 17, 1931.

On November 4, 1951 a new building was dedicated.

In March, 1963 the church purchased a four-acre site on Patterson Drive in King Heights at a cost of \$13,000 and



## Shepherd Role Wrong For Helping Drinker

Alcoholics have a particular fear in establishing a counseling relationship with a minister, according to a mental health specialist.

The alcoholic fears "he will become an illustration in a sermon," said Elbridge Fleming, director of Mental Health Service at the Regional Mental Health Complex at Starkville.

Fleming spoke during pastoral care seminar at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. Responsible for the complex's alcoholism program, Fleming outlined for ministers a strategy for counseling the alcoholic.

"Make a quick inventory of yourself," he said. "If you hate alcohol and everything it stands for, don't try to help anyone."

He said that if a minister feels the alcoholic is "God's child, needs to be

helped, and has the prential for helping you with others in the same condition," then, "you've got it together."

Fleming said to get as many facts on the situation as possible, and decide where the person is in social, spiritual relationships and his psychological setting.

In setting a strategy, Fleming said "I learned never to be overly anxious to cure or save the person. Chances of doing so in two or three counseling sessions are slim to none and reinforces false expectations."

Of the several roles a minister plays, the shepherd's role of rescuer for an alcoholic "is a no-no," said Fleming.

He explained the thought process of the long term chronic drinker. "He will think, 'If I could get the preacher to come say a prayer over me, I can begin to set things right.' He is expecting an external miracle," said Fleming.

The thing to do when he calls for a rescue while he is drunk, said Fleming, is to say you'll meet him at the hospital and after detoxification (drying out), you'll talk.

"We remember all those stories of people dying without repenting," said Fleming. "But if you go over and pray for him, he's still going to want another drink in two hours and will even be putting you down for not delivering the miracle."

The annual pastoral care seminar is sponsored jointly by the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

## SBTS D. Min. Accreditation

LOUISVILLE (BP) — The doctor of ministry (D. Min.) degree at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here has completed the final phase of its accreditation process by receiving full accreditation without notation of any kind.

The action means that Southern Seminary's D. Min. holds the highest possible official rating on the basis of nationally recognized accreditation standards.



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### The Thrill Of Home Missions

As the pation of Southern Baptists moves toward a Bold Mission Thrust during the last two years of this decade and Mississippi Baptists get into their third year of The Decade of Advance, it is time to give attention to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions and the Home Missions Week of Prayer March 6-13.

All of these concepts are inextricably woven together as state and home missions efforts play interchanging and cooperating roles throughout Mississippi and the nation.

The nationwide goal for the Home Missions offering for this year is \$11,250,000. A great deal of the money that is given by Mississippians will come back into this state to help pay salaries of missionaries who are

jointly employed by the state convention and the Home Mission Board. By far the greater part of it, however, will go beyond our state's borders to be used in areas where the work is not nearly as strong as it is here. The writer once spent two years in an area where Home Mission Board work is very much in evidence as missionaries of courage endeavor to spread the gospel of Christ in places where hostility could be no more fierce. There is a thrill and an excitement in seeing Annie Armstrong funds being put to work to gouge out a foothold in some of the more paganized areas of the world.

Annie Armstrong funds are expended in an effort to save the lost just as much as any funds are so spent in any part of the world. The Home Mission Board has set a goal for itself to

evangelize and congregationalize the United States during the final two years of this decade. This means presenting the gospel so that every person in the nation will have an opportunity to hear it and to provide a New Testament fellowship for every person who recognizes and accepts the claim of the gospel on his life.

Not an easy task, surely. It cannot be done without money. It cannot be done without prayer. It will not be done properly regardless of the time spent in prayer and the amount of money collected unless every one of us participates in the effort of the extent of our abilities.

The nation is counting on Mississippi to give a great deal more than it gets in Annie Armstrong funds.

### A Liquor Bill Dies

Very thankfully, the bill to authorize the advertising of liquor in every medium is dead. It died in committee in the House of Representatives and on the calendar in the Senate. A letter from Sen. Mitch Childre of Rankin County to that effect is to be found in this issue.

An expression of appreciation is due those people in the Legislature who heeded these conditions to come about. They have rendered a distinct service to their state.

We will not go into a discussion of what would have happened had the bill become law. There was some discussion on this matter in an earlier issue.

Suffice it to say, we would have begun to live in a different atmosphere.

There will be another effort when those in favor of such a situation feel that the time is ripe. If we can maintain our vigilance with enough alertness, perhaps that time will not come.

In the meantime we are being told the Mississippi has reached a new plateau of sophistication and is now ready to offer liquor for sale in resort areas on election days. Rep. Gerald Blessey of Harrison County introduced such a bill in the House. It is intended primarily to permit the tourists on the coast to buy liquor during an election in which they have no interest. Sen.

Howard Dyer of Humphreys and Washington counties does not represent the coast but nevertheless introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

Supporters of the bill are quoted in the daily papers as saying that surely now Mississippians can go to the polls on election day without getting drunk. We surely hope so, but we fail to understand how offering liquor for sale is going to be a helpful factor in that situation. And if the sale of liquor is all that primarily to permit the tourists on the Gulf Coast, they might as well stay at home. Very likely they can get liquor at home just as easily — except on election day.

### Victory Demands Character

This paper does not have a sports page, nor does it report on sports activities.

The writer took the occasion, however, to attend a basketball game a few days ago.

This was the final home game for the season for the Lady Chocs, the girls' basketball team of Mississippi College. For two years I had been wanting to see these girls play. They have established a nationwide reputation.

I am glad I went. If basketball games can be inspiring, this one was. This group of young ladies from Mississippi College played on even terms throughout the game with a taller and more experienced team and one that has been known for decades for fielding a nationally ranked team, Wayland Baptist College of Plainview, Texas.

The Lady Chocs battled them right down to the wire, if you don't mind the terminology, before losing the game in the final minute. In fact, they led Wayland's Flying Queens at the half, but the Queens came back on experience to take a 10-point or more lead following the half.

The character of the Lady Chocs team was put to the test. Being that far behind such a team as the Queens would seem to present an impossible situation, but the girls rallied themselves and fought back. They caught up and went one point ahead before being squeezed out at the end.

Ability is an admirable trait, and it was in evidence as the girls made their charge in an effort to salvage a victory from a desperate situation. But I believe the character, individually and collectively, of the girls was the trait that made it possible for them to come roaring back from sure defeat to a chance for victory.

As reflected on the game, I began to wonder if character is not the most essential ingredient in sports ability. To follow that thought further, is not character an essential ingredient in life itself? The dictionary describes character as moral vigor or firmness achieved through self discipline. It is certainly a necessary ingredient of life

if the Christian element in the world is to maintain an effective witness concerning the Lordship of Christ in the face of hostility and ridicule.

Maybe hostility and ridicule are not particularly in evidence in Mississippi, but they are in many places in the world and even in the United States. And it could be even in Mississippi that a reticence in stating our position concerning the Lordship of Christ is based on a fear that we will appear foolish. If we can tear ourselves away from the TV set to appear for organized visitation program, we search out other Baptists to talk to. We hope someone else will get the unsaved. It is seldom we take advantage of impromptu opportunities to witness and seldom that we search for such an opportunity.

Witnessing requires character based on self discipline, and the key word is self. We must discipline ourselves to carry out the Lord's work in the world. Character can be an acquired trait, and it may require a great deal of self discipline to attain it. It is a primary attribute of the Christian life, however.

Now, back to the Lady Chocs. I did not get all the names of the girls, and there were no programs available. I wish I knew them all; but there was no

doubt that team leadership rested on the shoulders of a small young lady from Morton, Rita Easterling. On this day she was a dynamic example that character may be acquired early in life. She did not seem to say much; but her composure, ability, and dedicated effort helped to rally her teammates from what seemed to be a hopeless situation and put them back into the game.

The other girls called up the character that was within them also, and victory was almost snatched from certain defeat.

Our role in life is to provide the example, the dedication, and the direction to help others find the way to turn from certain defeat to what will be certain victory.

Rita Easterling is a Baptist young lady who is said to be as genuine off the court as she is on it. Her character, ability, and dedication have taken her all over the world to play basketball.

We have opportunities to witness all over the world. Let us pray that we will find the character and dedication to do it ourselves at home and to provide the basis for those we have sent all over the world to get the job done where ever they are.

A basketball game can be inspiring.

## Book Reviews

**LEARNING TO LIVE** by Eugenia Price (Trumpet Books by A. J. Holman, paper, \$1.95, 286 pp.) One of America's best-loved authors offers sensible guidelines that deal with the problems of love, hate, greed, selfishness, gossip, fear, friendship, faith, death. As a basis for her guidelines Miss Price gives clear-headed interpretations of long-familiar passages in the Gospels and the Acts.

**OUTPOSTS OF LOVE** by Maria Anne Hirschmann (Fleming Revell, \$3.95, 220 pp.) Here is a look at the other side of the "ugly American" — a moving account of how American men and women bring life-sustaining help and Christian love to sick and homeless people in every area of the globe. The author, a former-Nazi girl, is better known as Hansi.

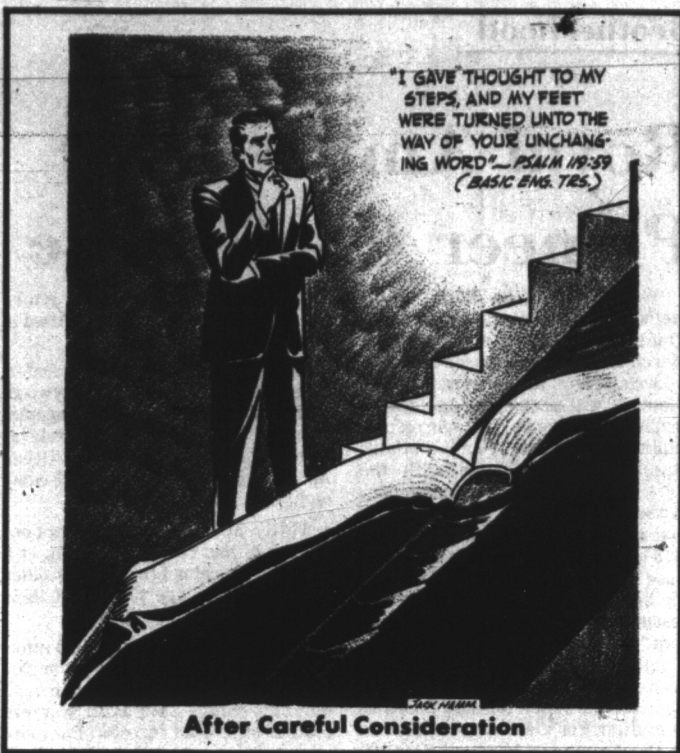
**ABRAHAM** by Gene A. Getz (Gospel Light, paper, 160 pp., \$2.95) This is a biblical study of Abraham's strengths and weaknesses, successes and failures, trials and triumphs. The reader will find practical principles for discovering and doing God's will, for Abraham and the man or woman of today have much in common.

**THE CHARACTERS IN PILGRIM'S PROGRESS** by Alexander White (Baker, paper, \$2.45, 281 pp.) Lovers of the allegory, *Pilgrim's Progress*, will appreciate this reprint from the works of a great Scottish preacher. The characters in John Bunyan's book are here given added life, color, and application.

**WOMAN ALONE, CONFIDENT AND CREATIVE** by Sarah Frances Anders (Broadman, \$2.95, 151 pp.) The head of the department of sociology at Louisiana College in this book gives a confident and hopeful view of being single — never married, divorced, or widowed. Some of the provocative chapter titles are *The Many Faces of the Non-married Ms.*; *Mother Without Father*; *Steward of My Body*; *Freedom to Become*.

**UNDER THE SS SHADOW** by Traugott Vogel with Shirley Stephens (Broadman, \$6.95, 132 pp.) Traugott Vogel, born in Heidelberg, Germany, was a Hitler Youth, son of an SS officer. When World War II ended in Germany's defeat, young Vogel's dreams died. This book is the story of his struggle to put the pieces of his life back together. Employment was closed to him because of his Nazi past, so he turned to the American military. While working with the Americans he became involved in the Youth for Christ movement, and worked among Germans in refugee camps. In 1968 he became pastor of an English-speaking Baptist church in Germany. Since 1974 he has been pastor of First Baptist Church of Sterling City, Texas. Shirley Stephens, who joins him in telling his story, is a free-lance writer living in Nashville.

**BLESSINGS FOR BLAH DAYS** by Kathryn Griffin (Broadman, \$2.50, 127 pp.) Kathryn Griffin, a teacher and writer from Virginia, says that we can gather blessings, "even on blah days." She helps us to find that "a nothing day can turn into a miraculous blessing." She states, "I want to tell about the poetry I have discovered in prose, the magic in the mundane, the beauty in the commonplace." She has found the poetry in prose, all right, for it shines from every page of her book.



### Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Last year — or was it the year before? — a hurricane traveled far inland, and a chinaberry tree fell against the roof of Daddy's barn. The building is leaning now, and in danger of falling. I hate to see it go, for it is a symbol of victory over what appeared to be defeat.

Until I was almost 12 we lived on rented land, moving from one place to another, about every two years, usually in search of richer dirt that would yield better crops. Then a big event occurred. In the fall of 1940 Daddy bought a farm — land we could call our own. Payments were due every year, though, and the amount of interest always seemed staggering. Some years cotton crops were good — but not enough years. The weather would be too wet or too dry. Our grey plow horse, Dan, hurt his leg and the injury would not heal. Lightning struck and killed one of our two mules. Yet we were a happy family. None of us thought of crop failures in terms of defeat. When spring came, Daddy was always ready to start again. He liked to see plants grow. He began work in a cotton mill, driving 50 miles round trip every day, to supplement our income. He would work mornings on the farm and until midnight at the mill.

Mama and Betty and I took turns milking the cows, Spot and Not Spot, the nights when Daddy was away. One night in the dark I accidentally sat on the milk bucket and milked in the feed bucket — to my absolute disgust. Another time Spot stood on Betty's foot and wouldn't move. Betty hit the cow over the horns with an aluminum bucket and knocked a hole in the bucket.

Last week when some tornadoes touched down around the state I thought about Daddy's barn. In the spring of my sophomore year at college I went home one March weekend.

Uncle Lynwood met my bus at Camp Hill. He said, "Your daddy couldn't come. He had a little bad luck last night."

Every night Daddy set the alarm clock, and then walked out onto the back porch to check on the weather. The night before, when he was on the porch, he had heard what he believed to be a tornado headed toward the house. When he rushed back inside he had a hard time closing the door. While he and Mama and Betty crouched between two beds, the twister smashed the garage that was perhaps 20 feet from the house, the well shelter by the back steps, and the barn. Pots and pans and chairs flew through the screen that enclosed the porch.

I was thankful to find my family safe and the house intact. Though the barn lay in scraps, the tornado for us proved to be a blessing. When the insurance man brought a check, Daddy made a quick decision. That money plus the sale of a cow or two would pay for the farm, and he would be free of debt!

"What will you do without a barn?" the banker asked. "Don't you need the insurance money to build another one?" But Daddy grinned. He wasn't worried. He re-stacked the pile of rubbish that had been a barn. He took his hammer and his saw and some nails and started to build. Soon he had another barn, smaller, but big enough to hold his corn and hay.

I can't remember how we celebrated our freedom from debt, but Mama liked celebrating, and I expect she baked a cake. (Speaking of celebrations, happy birthday on this Saturday, Mama!)

Daddy's "new" barn is leaning crazily now, but it was fine the day it was finished. It has for 29 years reminded me that you can take a tornado and turn it into a triumph.

## Guest Editorial

### The Ministry Of Bi-Vocational Pastors

Baptists are deeply indebted to the pastors who must work at second jobs in order to support their families. Too often the contributions of these men are not properly recognized. It is evident that Southern Baptists could not have progressed as we have without the work and dedication of these noble servants of God.

The importance of these bi-vocational pastors can be shown by the fact that there are currently more than 10,000 of these men serving in Southern Baptist churches. This is approximately one-third of all our pastors.

Denominations which have chosen not to use bi-vocational pastors have not progressed as Southern Baptists have.

The bi-vocational pastor has a noble heritage. The apostle Paul, for example, was skilled in a second occupation — tent making. He was pleased that he was never a burden to anyone. He said, "Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you." (II Thess. 3:8, also I Thess. 2:9 and II Cor. 11:9).

The bi-vocational pastor is often able to use his secular occupation to make contacts for the Lord. The pastor's second vocation may bring him in contact with numbers of people, who, through his life and verbal witness, he can influence to become Christians.

Paul, through his tent making, located some excellent helpers in the carrying of the gospel. It appears that the husband and wife team, Aquilla and Priscilla (Acts 18:1-4), were already committed Christians. But their mutual occupation drew the three together at a time when Paul needed help.

Another benefit derived from a preacher working at a second vocation is the fact that he will always know

what the life of the working man is like. This was the reason that the Jewish Rabbis were required to be bi-vocational. Rabbi Gamaliel III said, "All study of the Torah (law) which is not combined with work will ultimately be futile and lead to sin." (Bruce, the Book of Acts, p. 367)

Obviously, however, there are many drawbacks to a pastor being bi-vocational. There is a constant drain on his time and energy. He cannot devote his full time and thought to the spread of the gospel and the development of his church members. Each church, as soon as it can afford to, should provide full support for its pastor. Paul said, "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." (I Cor. 9:14)

There are several positive steps which should be taken to recognize the importance of the bi-vocational pastor. First, we should re-emphasize the fact that there are no big and little churches. Any New Testament congregation which is in God's will is big regardless of the attendance. Every pastor is important and valuable to God if he is where God wants him to serve.

More bi-vocation pastors should be included on boards and committees. This is often a problem because of the difficulty of a preacher being away from his second job. But these men have a great deal to contribute and they should be used.

Finally, we should thank God for these men and their dedication. They are a mighty force in spreading the gospel through our land. If our nation is to be confronted with the gospel, every God-called person must be utilized.

J. Everett Sneed, editor,  
Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

## The Baptist Record

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Thank you for your letter. Somehow our efforts have been misinterpreted, which is not hard when printed work is in question.

Indeed, we sought hard not to make any kind of an impact on the presidential election and ran not one word concerning it prior to the election. I didn't even make a choice myself until the day of the election. Following the election we have on more than one occasion called for prayer on behalf of the President and the nation.  
Also, we were simply trying to help

Billy Graham clarify a statement he had made earlier, which we did not print. Having not printed the first statement, perhaps we should not have printed the explanation; but we hoped it would help. We are for him. — Editor.

Dear Sir:

I read with much interest of Dr. Earl Kelly's article Jan. 27, 1977 entitled, "Kelly: Great Fear Is Of Losing Sense of Mission." I think it required great courage of our executive secretary-treasurer to come out so frankly, calling our attention to the modernistic trends in our Southern Baptist churches today.

My understanding of the true church of the Lord Jesus Christ is that they are, and should be, a group of baptized believers and need only a house of worship to carry on the mission that Jesus and the apostles laid out for us to follow two thousand years ago. Dr. Pollard of First Church, Jackson in a recent sermon on T.V. touched on the subject (in essence) as I understood him he minimized bricks and mortar as the essential mission of Christ.

We recognize therefore the need of a house of worship. But where in God's Word do we find that God's tithes and offerings were to be used erecting expensive buildings to purchase and install pool halls, bowling alleys, kitchen equipment, cafeterias, basketball courts, ping-pong, stereos with hard rock music, etc.?

Jesus, in his day, rebuked those who made God's house a house of merchandise. Paul said, in so many words,



# OUR LAND FOR CHRIST



Honolulu, Hawaii, is one of America's urban area that may not have a strong enough Southern Baptist witness to handle tourists and variety of cultures. — HMB photo by Don Rutledge



Two Ukrainian women in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, represent the 48 percent of America's population who are of another cultural group other than Anglo-American — HMB photo by Everett Hullum



Bold Mission Thrust can place a Baptist witness in every county, transitional community, key city, and social-cultural group in the U. S. These targets are typified by this scene at Techwood Baptist Center in the hub of Atlanta. — HMB photo by Don Rutledge



Elderly and retired persons flock to marinas and resort areas like Fairfield Bay, Arkansas. Southern Baptists have a chapel here. — HMB photo by Ken Touchton



In South Dakota travelers can drive for miles without seeing a town, much less a Southern Baptist church. Home Mission Board missionary Henry Chiles travels the Northern Plains in his Airstream trailer to help sustain new congregations. — HMB photo by Don Rutledge

## ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING FOR BOLD HOME MISSIONS

**\$11,250,000.00**



The Bronx Baptist Church in New York is one of many churches in America that survive in the midst of a changing neighborhood. — HMB photo by Ken Touchton

The 1977 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions will help provide funding for the Home Mission Board's attempts to congregationalize and evangelize the nation by the end of the decade.

Approximately 15 percent of the \$11,250,000 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal will go for new Bold Mission projects. The rest of the funds will underpin home missions to keep up work already in

progress.

Dramatically increased financial support through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and the Cooperative Program is providing resources for evangelization projects and for starting new congregations in Bold Mission Thrust, according to William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the Home Mission Board.

—Bold Mission Thrust centers on

four target areas of the nation where need for Christ is the greatest.

The four target areas are (1) counties without an effective evangelistic witness, (2) key cities, (3) cultural and lifestyle groups, and (4) churches in transitional communities.

More than 600 United States counties have no Southern Baptist congregation. For example, in Putnam County, New York, an es-

timated four out of five persons are not saved. A Southern Baptist church can help reverse that fact.

Key American cities often have too small or too few Southern Baptist churches to meet the needs of the urban area.

Baltimore, Maryland, was historically a stronghold of Southern Baptists. Now three quarters of a million people in Baltimore belong to no religious groups. Southern Baptists can reach them.

Millions of people in America do not speak English or speak it only as a second language. Nearly half of all Americans identify themselves with a culture group other than Anglo-American. They need churches in their own culture.

Churches in transitional communities often suffer from a shift in population or from a change in the social, economic, or racial composition of the community. How can they continue a witness?

The goals of Bold Mission Thrust reach into each situation and strengthen or establish a Southern Baptist witness.

The cost will be high in dollars, time, and prayer. Bill Hogue, director of the Home Mission Board's Evangelism Section, says that Bold Mission Thrust's potential comes from a vision of lay persons willing to sacrifice.

—Judy Touchton  
Photo-Feature Editor  
Home Mission Board

## Around The World

### Indonesia

By David Grant, Pastor  
Broadmoor Church, Jackson  
(One of a Series)

One of our primary reasons in making the mission trip was to visit Indonesia. Two families of missionaries who work in that country had lived in the missionary home furnished by Broadmoor Baptist Church. They are the John Smiths and the C. W. Applewhites. Time and again, I had heard them tell about places and experiences. I admired each family. Therefore, I longed to visit their work — a work in which we at Broadmoor felt we had a real part. So this was one of our targets from the beginning.

We left Thailand and went to the city of Singapore. The families I have already mentioned had told about their children attending school there. I did not understand the relation of Singapore to Indonesia until the trip.

Singapore is an independent city that is truly thrilling. Some of the most modern buildings in the world are in that city. We did not know anyone personally there, but we had a letter of introduction from our friends we had made in Thailand. I called Rev. Mack Burris. He picked us up at the hotel.

We went to the airport and met most of the missionaries there as one of their group was returning from furlough in the United States. David immediately found some young people with whom he worked at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly. After leaving the missionaries there, we visited one in a hospital. We then made a quick tour of this most impressive city. We saw the school where the children attended, some of the churches, and learned about the project to penetrate huge apartment complexes for Christ. After eating lunch with the Burrises, we flew to Indonesia.

Our first destination was Bukittinggi, where we thought the Applewhites were. We landed at Padang, which is some few hours from Bukittinggi. Our greatest disappointment of the trip was when a lady met us, introduced herself, and told us the Applewhites were in Kediri and we would not be able to see them. Our first reaction was to try to get a flight out immediately, but, of course, this was not feasible. The lady was Dr. Kathleen Jones. She and Miss Everley Hayes were our hostesses in Bukittinggi. This is where the hospital is located that Win Applewhite had worked so hard on

so long to get it built and opened. We were able to see the complete hospital inside and out. Win had done much of the planning and designing. Because of the area where it is located and the religion of the people, the name "Baptist" is not to be found on it. At the time we were there, it was only being used as an outpatient clinic with Dr. Jones as the doctor and Miss Hayes as the nurse. These ladies were two of the most interesting people we met. They have both been missionaries for many years. Miss Hayes is the nurse that was with Dr. Bill Wallace up until the last, and she told me much about that.

We slept in the Applewhite's home and had our meals with the two missionary ladies. It was my privilege to preach in their church on Sunday with Dr. Jones as my interpreter.

Even though the hospital was only operating as an outpatient clinic at the time, it had been approved for opening into a full hospital facility. They were in the process of securing a staff at that time; and during that period Win was working at our hospital in Kediri, where they were short-handed.

Dr. Jones and Miss Hayes gave us a complete tour of the city and the surrounding area. Since we were there the hospital has gone in full operation, and we hear from the Applewhites frequently. They are getting a tape from Broadmoor Baptist Church each week. One of their daughters is at Mississippi College and still a member of our church. I have, in the last few days, received one of the sweetest letters from her one could ever expect to read.

We left Bukittinggi and went to Yogyakarta, where our good friends John and Nell Smith are working. John met us at the plane, and we immediately started seeing things in this very delightful city. We also met the Hayes, who had transferred from South Vietnam there. They had the evening meal at the Smiths' home with us. We had only one night there, but it was a delightful one.

John and Nell are doing student work. They live near a huge university. One of the most interesting parts of their work is furnishing a study hall for the students. Living conditions at home are not conducive to study, and this gives the Smiths a tremendous opportunity to witness for our Lord. They have given up a good spacious home and are living in a small apartment because they feel it makes them better witnesses. These people are truly dedicated and are doing a great work.

We left Yogyakarta and went to Jakarta where Missionary Ed Sanders met us. We went to his home for an evening meal even though we had never met him before. After the meal Ed, his daughter, who is a student at Oklahoma Baptist University, and I went to a revival service. The service was in their national language. It was interesting, but I got very little out of it because I could not understand the language! We spent the night in the guest house and a family leaving on furlough took us to the plane the next morning. This was an experience in its own right. To see a man, his wife, and four boys with enough baggage and other things to be gone a whole year and to have fellowship with them was a real blessing.

The Lord's work is strong in some

## Native Kenyans Begin Coastal Congregations

MALINDI, Kenya (BP) — Going from village to village, six teams of Kenyan Baptist nationals have started 89 congregations and baptized 1,328 persons in the last 14 weeks. Their work is part of the "Giryama Project," designed to reach members of the Giryama tribe of coastal Kenya.

The year-long project began last summer with the digging of 10 new wells in Giryama villages so that the people could have clean drinking water during the dry season.

Since this initial contact was made, team members have been working in four phases under direction of Southern Baptist Missionary G. Clayton Coursey. The first phase is one week of evangelistic services and teaching led by national pastors and recently graduated national seminary students.

A four-day preliminary leadership training course is the next stage of the project, followed by introduction of Theological Education by Extension (TEE) in a once-a-week home study.

places in Indonesia and weak in others. It is a great country and we have some outstanding missionaries there. This was one of the highlights of the whole trip.

The next article will tell about the Philippines and Hong Kong.

The fourth phase is a one-week Bible school which rotates in location so each leader can come one week a month.

The project was designed to reach the Giryama Tribe with the gospel of Jesus Christ and train leaders from among the tribe members to continue the work. Giryama Tribe members, once thought to be Muslim, were either without religious beliefs or were animists (spirit worshippers) when the project began.

## Bible Courses In Demand

William Carey College On The Coast has announced an increase in enrollment for the spring semester in three major categories. And, according to official records, courses in Bible have been the most popular in demand.

A total of 389 students have registered for the spring semester, with additional graduate and evening classes still to begin within a few weeks.

Spring semester students enrolling for credit exceeded the fall number with a record of 140 as compared to 126. Fulltime students increased in number for the spring semester from 40 to 58.



# Today's Youth



Backyard Bible study at Laurel, Montana, was led by a group of young people from Mississippi. Lori Ann Wells worked with this group.

## Youth Group Is Planning Summer Mission To Montana

By Lori Ann Wells

I have read numerous articles about Montana missions in the Baptist Record. I am a member of a Montana missions group. I am 17 years old, and a junior in high school, and live at Route 4, Mt. Olive. Our group goes to Montana every summer for two weeks. The trips are sponsored by the Magee Brotherhood and different contributing Baptist churches. Some of the areas of our ministry are Hamilton, Lewistown, and Laurel, Montana.

The group will consist of adults and young people, all amounting to around 18 this year. The only requirements for this trip are: to really feel led to go, and to be ready to WORK!

I would really love to tell you what this work means to me, but it is impossible. No words can describe the beauty of this place or the bond of love we share with these people who are hungry for the Word. We love them, and they love us because they know we travel all that distance to teach them about Jesus Christ the Savior.

The 1977 trip starts May 31, 1977, at 6 o'clock p.m. and we will arrive home June 15 or 16.

Lisa Carol Austin, 14, plans to go on the 1977 Montana trip. She has never been to Montana, but wrote a poem about it after hearing our testimonies:

Montana is a state  
You truly won't believe  
If you ever go there,  
You'll never want to leave.

The people are so friendly  
And really loving too.  
And if you get to know them,  
I am sure you'd love them, too.

There are mountains in Montana,  
Streams, valleys, and hills  
If you've ever denied God's glory,  
This will give you chills.

The scenery is so beautiful  
If just isn't fair.  
Think of all the lucky people  
Who get to live up there.

I've never been to Montana  
But I hope to go someday.  
And I'm sure that's where I want to live  
So I'm gonna stay.

Yes, Montana will be my home  
Someday in later years  
I want to go so bad right now  
It sometimes brings me tears.

The people really need me  
And I really need them, too.  
If you ever want to join us,  
We could always use YOU!



## Chorus, Consort Singers In Jackson

The Men's Chorus (top) and Consort Singers of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, presented a program of sacred music at Woodland Hills Church, Jackson on Sunday, February 27. The Men's Chorus sang selections by contemporary composers, Dello Joio, Flor Peeters, and Kent Newbury. Music from earlier periods included the Bach Cantata No. 196 and two selections by the Russian composer Gretchaninoff.

The Consort Singers, a madrigal group, performed Twentieth Century church music. As a part of their program featuring secular music, were selections by several 16th century madrigal composers. Most notable is the "Le Chant des Oyseaux" (Song of the Birds) by Clement Janequin, in which the singers imitated various birdlike sounds in a texture of complex counterpoint. The appearance of the two singing groups was a part of a six-state singing tour of the South. Pastor of Woodland Hills is James E. Scirrat; minister of music is James Glass.

## Off The Record

The Count of Monte Crisco was suspected of intrigue against the King. So the King accused him and he denied it. The King confiscated all the Count's land, and he still refused to confess. Then he tried torture. Still no confession. At last the King ordered the Count's execution, hoping he would confess. The executioner's double-bladed axe hovered above the Count's head which was on the chopping block.

The King, once again asked for a confession—which was refused. Then as the blade slammed down toward the Count's head, he said, "Stop, I'll tell everything I know." But it was too late. The axe couldn't be stopped and the Count's head was chopped off. And the moral to this story is 'Never hatchet your counts before they chicken.'

## Miss-Mississippi To Entertain At Carey Homecoming Luncheon

Homecoming, 1977, at William Carey College has been set for Saturday, March 26, with a special Homecoming - eve gathering of all former students involved in musical groups at the college through the years.

Registration for all visiting alumni will take place at 10 a.m. on Saturday, with a concert scheduled for 11 a.m. Both will occur in Thomas Fine Arts Building. The annual Homecoming luncheon is set for 12:30 in Wilkes Dining Hall, at which time Miss Mississippi, Carey's own Bobbye Wood, will be the featured entertainer.

The Outstanding Alumnus of the Year award will be presented at the

luncheon by President J. Ralph Noonkester, and the entire event will be under the direction of Tommy King, president of the Carey Alumni Association.

The 25th anniversary of the Class of



MISS MISSISSIPPI, Bobbye Wood, last year's Miss Carey College, will be the featured entertainer for the Homecoming Luncheon at William Carey College on Saturday, March 26.

## WMU Announces Winners Of Awards To MKs

BIRMINGHAM (BP) — The Woman's Missionary Union executive board has announced winners of the WMU's annual Elizabeth Lowndes Award to deserving MKs (missionary kids).

William Carey College graduate David C. Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Ralph Davis, missionaries to Ghana, and Martha Dale Chestnut, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Chestnut, home missionaries in Selma, Ala., will each receive a \$200 cash award.

Decisions on the award winners, a WMU spokesperson said, are based on school records and other communications from colleges attended by children of Southern Baptist home and foreign missionaries. Candidates are nominated by the denomination's Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

Davis, now a graduate student at Baylor University, a Baptist school in Waco, Tex., graduated first in his class — summa cum laude — from William Carey College, in Hattiesburg, Miss. Born in Nigeria, he was active in many service organizations at William Carey and received many honors.

Chestnut, now doing graduate study in music at the University of Indiana, Bloomington, is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. She was a member of several service organizations, received the Outstanding Music Student award during her freshman, sophomore and senior years, and received several music awards and scholarships outside the university.

Her brother, David Hall Chestnut, was a 1974 recipient of the Elizabeth Lowndes Award.

## Pepping Up The Pulpit

MINNEAPOLIS (EP) — One pastor thought he should "be more animated in the pulpit," another wanted to "be more theatrical" and a third said he needs to learn "to move around a bit and put action in the pulpit."

The three are among 16 United Methodist ministers taking a special course in "The Use of Voice and Movement in Worship" at the world-famed Guthrie Theater here.

The ministers said they wanted suggestions on how to get their congregations more involved in worship service messages. Many said they are too "formal" in the pulpit.

Their class is the first one offered at the Guthrie exclusively for a group other than actors. It was instigated by Paul Stambaugh, a former seminary intern at the theater and now associate pastor of the United Methodist Church of Excelsior, a Minneapolis suburb.

1952 and the 10th anniversary of the Class of 1967 will be celebrated by returning alumni. Charis Austin Parks of New Albany and the Nathan Barber of Bay St. Louis, respectively, will be chairing committees for the two class reunions.

The 1977 Homecoming Court will be presented during the intermission between the Carey Crusaders' double-header baseball game on Saturday with Auburn University (Montgomery campus).

## Alta Woods

### To Present

### Mars Hill Choir

The Mars Hill College Choir will be presented in concert at Alta Woods Church, Jackson, at 7:30 p.m. on March 4.

Chief features of the choir's repertory are groups of compositions by the masters of the renaissance, baroque and romantic periods as well as a set of pieces reflecting contemporary choral writing, and a group of southern folk hymns.

The ensemble of 36 auditioned voices has performed at professional gatherings on the state, regional and national levels; the most recent being the Music Educators' National Conference at Atlantic City, New Jersey.

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## Springdale Conference Grounds

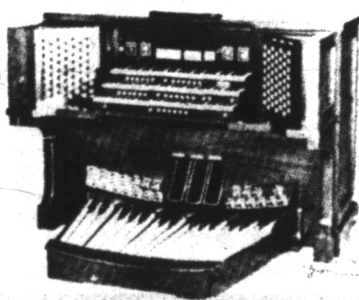
These conference grounds are composed of 3 lakes which enables a lot of swimming and canoeing. There are 10 cabins (8-10 people each), an outdoor Chapel, and large dining hall which accommodates large meetings. For more information contact: Springdale Lakes Camp, P. O. Box 883, New Albany, MS 38652.

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## Joy Singers Present Zack, Jr.

The Joy Singers of the Agricola Church have returned from a tour in which they presented ZACK, JR., a folk musical by Jack Coleman. They sang at their home church; at Pecan Grove Church, Ellisville; and at West Ellisville Church, Mrs. Rawleen Chisholm was their accompanist. Ronnie R. Cottingham is minister of music and W. Bryce Evans is pastor.

We were chaff, now we are wheat;  
we were dross, now we are gold;  
we were ravens, now we are doves;  
we were goats, now we are sheep;  
we were thorns,  
now we are grapes;  
we were thistles,  
now we are lilies;  
we were strangers,  
now we are citizens;  
we were harlots,  
now we are virgins;  
hell was our inheritance,  
now heaven is our possession;  
we were children of wrath,  
now we are sons of mercy;  
we were bondslaves to Satan,  
now we are heirs of God  
and co-heirs with Jesus Christ.  
—JAMES BISSE (1581)

## Youth Rally Features Mathis

The George County Associational Youth Rally is set for March 10, at 7 p.m. at Southside Church, Lucedale.

The featured speaker will be Buddy Mathis, well known youth evangelist from Pascagoula. He will bring with him Elizabeth, Guide of Mobile to provide special music.

"We would like to invite all those of George County and surrounding counties says Horace Glass, county missionary and Ronnie R. Cottingham, associational youth director of George County.

## CHURCH TRAINING LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

If your association is listed below, there is a super special training opportunity waiting for you at the place designated. These conferences are planned to help church leaders function more effectively in the leadership roles to which they have been elected.

Starting time is 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise designated.

"More People Enlisted For More Effective Training"

Date	Pastor-Director Conf.	Reaching Adults For Church Training	Youth In Church Training	Preschool And Children
Mar 7	PERRY First, Richton	BOLIVAR Yale Street	TATE Senatobia	
	FRANKLIN Providence	OKTIBBEHA Calvary	TISHOMINGO Tishomingo	
	COVINGTON-JEFF DAVIS Lone Star			
	GREENE First, Leesville	WINSTON Nexapater	LEE Plantersville	
	GULF COAST Baptist Center			
Mar 8	GEORGE Southside	LEFLORE North Greenwood	ALCORN South Corinth	March 24 RANKIN Eastside, Pearl
	PIKE Missions Office	WEBSTER Walthall	PANOLA Panola Baptist Building RIVERSIDE Clarksdale	
Mar 31	PONTOTOC Friendship			SMITH White Oak LAUDERDALE Highland





## Our Church . . . ... And The Cooperative Program

By Joe Ratcliff  
Pastor, Collins

In God's Kingdom, each of his children has strengths and weaknesses. It is also true of his churches. Some are examples in evangelism, others are examples in maturing disciples. Some have the virtue of mission giving along with other strengths.

When the history of Collins Church is complete upon the chronicles of God, many things will be said, but surely there will be an accurate record of her mission giving.

Through the past decade there has been a steady increase in Cooperative Program giving until in 1976 it was 23%. Along with this 2% is designated for Gulfshore restoration. The budget was \$87,279.00.

The three special offerings were:

Lottie Moon Christmas offering \$5,094.00; the Annie Armstrong Easter offering \$1,636.00; and \$1,355.00 for our gift to State Missions. There was a total of \$105,869.00 given through the church from October 1, 1975 to September 30, 1976, and \$32,341.00 of this went for mission causes.

Ten years ago the church gave \$58,020.00 total gifts with \$14,546.00 going into mission causes: 21% was through Cooperative Program and the special offerings were \$2,243.00 for Lottie Moon Christmas offering; \$835.00 for Annie Armstrong Easter offering; and \$596 for state missions.

Surely God has freely given. We will do well to follow in his train.

Collins Church was 12th in the state in per member gifts through the Cooperative Program in 1976. They gave \$56.80, an increase of \$10.03 per member over 1975.

## Walk For Mankind, Jackson Project, Endorsed By Swor

Chester E. Swor, writer and lecturer has issued an endorsement of the Walk for Mankind project currently underway in Jackson.

Swor stated, "The Walk For Mankind is fully in keeping with our nation's tradition of compassion toward the needs of less fortunate ones at home and around the world.

"All who participate in this wonderfully worthy project will not only be helping to alleviate needs of fellow citizens of our world, but will be participating in an experience which will identify the walkers with mankind's benefactors through the centuries.

"In short, all participants will be a part of a 'Galaxy of Greatness' and will be the better world - citizens for the experience."

The various Walk for Mankind projects, held throughout the United States, provide funds for Project Concern, a nonprofit, international health organization. These funds are used to provide dental and medical care to nearly 40 clinics and hospitals in Hong Kong, Ethiopia, Bali, Guatemala, Mexico and the United States.

Local Jackson organizations sponsoring the Walk are the Central Mississippi Medical Auxiliary, the Jackson Life Underwriters, CONTACT and the Jaycees.

The 20-mile Jackson walk, the fourth held in Jackson, will be Saturday, March 26, starting from Riverside Park.

All individuals or organizations interested in participating can contact Mrs. Linda Gilliland, Jackson coordinator, at 969-3700.

## A Woman's World Reaches For Beyond the Ironing Board

—Wanda Fancher—

Have you ever tried to unwater a houseplant?

It is not easy. In some cases it proves impossible.

My most recent hobby is houseplants. They move along with about the same speed that quilting does. The only thing is: you can't kill a quilt with a waterpot. So, for permanence, quilting has its advantages.

Houseplants look so easy in the pictures and sound so easy in the instructions. As long as they are healthy, that is. It's just when they begin to have symptoms that you, to say nothing of your houseplants, are in big trouble.

It is very logical to turn to a book on plants to find out in much the same way a doctor finds out in his medical books what is wrong with a patient based on symptoms what is wrong with your houseplant when the leaves begin to turn yellow. So you turn. And sure enough, right there in big bold letters: SYMPTOM: LEAVES TURN YELLOW. So you think you are half-way there. And you read on: causes of leaves turning yellow: too much light, too little light; too much water, not enough water; too much feeding, not enough feeding; too much humidity, not enough humidity. Check to see which the problem is and correct the conditions you figure out.

You plant lovers know I am not exaggerating, don't you?

I'm glad the instructions we get from the Bible about what is wrong with us as Christians are not as wacky as that. Can't you imagine how frustrating it would be to read: Symptom: Christian loses interest in the church. Causes: too much worship of other idols, not enough worship of other idols. Figure out the problem and correct it. The cause is stated in no contradictory terms: You cannot worship two gods. The cure: Thou shalt have no other gods.

I'm also glad that the Lord is better able to diagnose my problems and help me with them that I am with my houseplants. I think it has to do with something about the way He created us human beings in a special class all our own, in His image.

I am reasonably sure, though, that my growth is likely to be as vexing to Him as my plants' growth is to me.

## Pike County Calls Missions Director

V. Daniel West has resigned as director of missions in Simpson Association to become director of missions for Pike Association.

His work in the new job began February 15. West, a native of Petal, was pastor at Goodwater Church in Simpson County before becoming the Simpson director of missions. A graduate of William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary, he is married to the former Rachel Ann Ward of Wiggins and has two children, Scott Daniel and Shannon Rachelle.

He was ordained at Hillcrest Church, Jackson. During student days he was a summer missionary sponsored by Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, to Balboa, Canal Zone, and later was youth director at First Church, Brookhaven, and pastor at Philadelphia (Lincoln).

You can usually dodge a question with a long-winded answer.

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BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

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## HMB Appoints State Couples



John and Ruth King

John King and his wife Ruth of Lyons, Colorado, have been appointed missionaries by the Home Mission Board. King is a graduate of William Carey College.

He will serve as a pastoral missionary in the Summit, Colorado area, an appointment made through the Church Extension Department of the Home Mission Board and the Colorado Baptist Convention. Prior to his appointment King was pastor of the Foothills Church in Lyons.

Two other William Carey College graduates have been appointed by the Home Mission Board. Charles and Ina Gordon, both natives of Laurel, have been assigned to the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area where he will serve as Director of Christian Social Ministries for the Delaware Valley Baptist Association.

Prior to accepting the position with the Home Mission Board Gordon had been the pastor of the Wrightsboro Baptist Church, Peach Bottom, Pennsylvania. Ina is a school teacher and she served as WMU director for the Keystone Baptist Association. In Mississippi the Gordons served at the First Church, Crystal Springs, and the Bethany Church, Prentiss.

They have two children, Charles who lives in New Albany, and Beverly, a student at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Gordons are making their home in New Jersey.

## Revival Dates

**White Oak Church, near Raleigh:** March 13-18. James Fancher of Jackson, evangelist; Ralph Hall, student at Mississippi College, directing music; special music groups to be featured each evening; services at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday and night services only Monday through

## McMullens Accept Positions At Walnut Ridge

John McMullen and Mrs. McMullen have accepted positions at Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, Arkansas.

McMullen resigned the pastorate of Blythe Creek Church (Choctaw) effective January 23.

He has accepted the position as Director of Counseling and Mrs. McMullen as Director of the Upward Bound Program.

McMullen was pastor at Blythe Creek Church for four years. During this time, the church built and paid for an educational building (including a baptistry), purchased an organ, new hymnals, church steeple, and cushions for the pews. Also, the church installed central heat and air in the church and parsonage. During this time the church has raised the pastor's salary, Cooperative Program gifts, and associational missions gifts.

## Neshoba Church Calls Haney

Warren Haney has assumed the pastorate of Neshoba Church near Union. He formerly was pastor of Spring Creek Church in Philadelphia for three years.

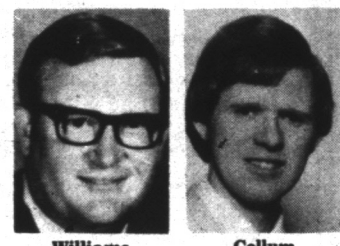
He and his wife, Jackie, are active in associational work. Haney has served as association Church Training director, stewardship chairman, and in other responsibilities. He is listed in *Who's Who in Religion*. Mrs. Haney is an approved worker by the Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department for youth activities, and is the associational director of Acteens.

Both Mississippi natives, the Haney's returned to Mississippi Baptist work after a successful ministry in Alabama. Haney attended Mobile College and New Orleans Seminary.

They are the parents of three children: Mike, a junior at Mississippi State; Curt, a junior at Neshoba Central High; and Donna, a freshman at Union High.

Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Bill Dowdy, pastor.

**Northwest Hills, Jackson:** March 6-11; services at 7:30 nightly; Marvin Bibb, pastor of Mathiston Church, evangelist; James M. Brown, leading the music; Robert McDonald, pastor.



Williams Collum

## McLaurin Heights Calls Two Men

McLaurin Heights Church, Pearl, has called two new men: Curtis L. Williams, pastor, and W. R. (Bill) Collum, minister of music and youth. The Personnel Committee will soon complete the staff by securing a minister of education.

Williams came as pastor of McLaurin Heights from McComb, where he pastored the Central Church for almost five years. He is a graduate of William Carey College and attended New Orleans Seminary. He and his wife, Judy, have three daughters: Christie, Cathy, and Carol.

Collum goes to McLaurin Heights Church from Hattiesburg where he was minister of music and youth at Dixie Church. He holds a B.S. degree in music and a master's in church music from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is married to the former Diane Coleman of Jackson.

## Hamburg Church Dedicates New Furnishings

Hamburg Church, Roxie (Franklin) dedicated recently installed church furnishings in a special service on January 23. Twenty-two pews, a pulpit, pulpit chairs, and communion table, as well as central heating and cooling system, were dedicated to the service of God.

Members and former members donated the new furniture when the church began the two projects last summer.

Matt Buckles, pastor at Hamburg since February, 1976, said, "This is a tremendous addition to the church. We are grateful to all the people who had a part in it. It was a unified effort."

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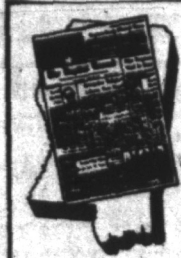


## Odle Receives Award From MC

Joe T. Odle, left, of 1322 Robert Dr., Jackson, former editor of the Baptist Record and long a leader in the field of religious journalism, has been honored by Mississippi College with the "Service to Humanity" award. The presentation of a citation and plaque was made during chapel ceremonies Feb. 4 at the Baptist Building. The award was made in behalf of the college by Ralph Atkinson, right, vice president for institutional advancement. Atkinson paid tribute to Odle's pastoral ministry and his broader influence on many lives through the written word. He also was recognized for his contributions to his community and his church.

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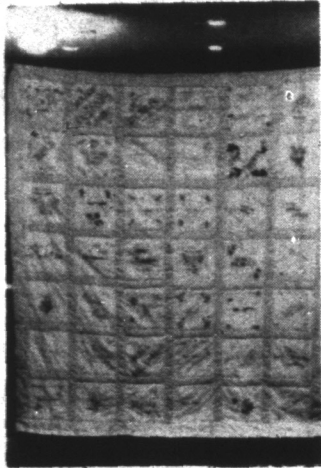
## Just For The Record



The family of W. H. Malone has given the Trinity Church, Rosedale (Bolivar) a lighted bulletin board sign (above) in memory of Mr. Malone. Dale Wilson is pastor.



Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, has achieved the Distinguished Recognition Award from the Church Training Department, and, was awarded the five-star award at the annual "M" night service. Looking over these awards is the Church Training Director of Easthaven, Mrs. Mike Pace, and Robert M. Hanvey, pastor.



The people of Glendale Church, Greenville, wanted to give their pastor something as a unique gift. One of the ladies suggested a church friendship quilt. Thirty-six families took part in this one-of-a-kind gift to Benny R. Cox, pastor.



Fair River Church, Brookhaven decided to frame their note in lieu of burning it after they paid off the money borrowed to build a new sanctuary. The sanctuary was dedicated in April of 1975. Left to right: Berry Givens, chairman of finance; Fleet Lofton, chairman of deacons; Grady Mullen, church treasurer; Donny Watkins, pastor; and F. D. Moore, building committee chairman.



Billy W. Baker, a Calhoun County native, and his family have moved to Webster County where he has accepted the pastorate of West Shady Grove Church. The Bakers moved from Tippah County where he was pastor of Dumas Church. He is a graduate of Blue Mountain College and attended New Orleans Seminary. Mrs. Baker is the former Rebecca Morgan of Vardaman. They have three children, Diana Carol, Michael Dewayne, and Jonathan Howard.

### Revival Dates

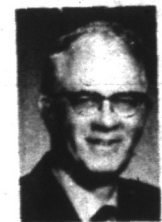
First, Lambertson: March 8-11; J. D. Grey, pastor emeritus, First, New Orleans, evangelist; Gordon Alford of Rocky Creek Church, Lucedale, guest musician; David Strebeck, pastor; services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

### Sunday School Lesson: International For March 6

## The Way Of Unselfish Service

By Wm. J. Fallis  
Mark 10:35-45; Luke 10:1-16, 25-27

Jesus had crowds following him almost everywhere he went in Galilee during the first eighteen months of his ministry.



They were amazed at his miracle, and many sought his help for themselves or their loved ones. But he did not intend to be only a miracle worker; he had a gospel to declare, and a way of life to present. He had laid the groundwork in the Sermon on the Mount and a number of parables, but with this lesson we begin a four-Sunday study of passages in which Jesus stressed unique ideas in his way of life for his followers. Those disciples must understand and be committed to that way if they were to share the gospel in their world. Living according to his pattern, they could bring other believers into the family of God. The first characteristic of Jesus' pattern of living was the way of unselfish service.

Seeking Prominent Places (Mark 10:35-40)  
Certainly, James and John were convinced during Jesus' transfiguration that he was the Messiah. Peter was convinced even earlier. But in this passage we see that the two brothers were still thinking of an earthly kingdom. Assuming that the promised Messiah-King would win Israel's freedom from Rome, they wanted to get in early their bids for prominent places in the new government. They felt they deserved those honors more than the other disciples because they were among the first to be called.

Instead of rebuking their ambition, Jesus said they did not realize what they were asking. Both "cup" and "baptism" are used figuratively, representing what Jesus would have to endure. Like children, James and John quickly said, "We are able" (RSV). Jesus agreed that eventually they would "drink of the cup," and Luke tells us that James was martyred (Acts 12:2). But ultimately the assignment of prominent places in the kingdom of God was the right and responsibility of God. Serving Leads To Greatness (Mark 10:41-45)  
In verse 41 the words "much dis-

pleased" are not as strong as "angry" (TEV) and "highly indignant" (Weymouth). The others were probably as ambitious as James and John. So Jesus talked to the whole group about two contrasting standards of value. On the one hand, Gentile rulers — with their pagan religion and conduct — liked to "lord it over" their subjects, from one level to another. But the disciples would follow a different pattern in relating to others.

Whoever among them wanted to be "great" must be their servant. In the mind of Jesus, serving others was far more significant than exercising authority over them. He was their Master, their Teacher, but he came not to be served but to serve. Even more, he

would "give his life a ransom for many."

Showing Love For A Neighbor (Luke 10:25-37)

This is probably the best-known of Jesus' parables; it offers both a judgment and an ideal. The judgment is against the religious leaders of his own people, and it can be applied to all who are self-righteous in their religiosity. The ideal also can be applied in any culture or religion as the neighborly approach to anyone in trouble. What a change it could make around the world!

An interpreter of God's law tried to test Jesus' doctrinal position. Jesus threw the question back and then commended the law expert for picking

out the key commandments in the Torah. To keep from looking foolish, the scribe then asked, "Who is my neighbor?" Instead of giving a specific answer, Jesus told a story of a man who was attacked by robbers and left half dead. Two Jewish religious leaders, one after the other, passed him by. But a Samaritan — despised by the Jews — stopped, treated the man's wounds, and then took him to an inn to recover his strength. Then Jesus asked, "Which of the three was a neighbor to the man in trouble?" When the lawyer gave a grudging answer, Jesus said, "Go and act as he did." A Christian cannot honestly escape the meaning here for neighborhoods as well as churches.

### Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For March 6

## Judas — The Betrayer

By Bill Duncan  
Long Beach, First  
Matt. 26:14-25, 47-50; John 12:1-6

The last week of Jesus' life was like an experience in a pressure cooker. The people who shared the last week



showed how pressures threatened to destroy the life and work of Jesus. There were pressures within the lives of the persons who touched each other. Some of these pressures were ambition; frustration, fear, responsibility, and emotional upheavals such as hatred, jealousy, and love. There were forces on the outside seeking to distort, twist and redirect the life of Jesus and His followers.

How do we cope with pressures? Can we escape from pressures? Success in life comes from letting the Author of life regulate and direct life's pressures to His glory.

Jesus Christ had become a popular religious teacher, miracle worker and leader in His ministry. Yet He was hated by the Jewish authorities because of His teachings that were

against their system of religious activities. The authorities were looking for a way to arrest Jesus without provoking riotous disturbances. Judas gave them the means of arresting and trapping Jesus.

Why would Judas want to betray Jesus?

(1) It may have been because of greed. John tells us that Judas was a thief and pilfered from the money that was in the bag. The sum for which he agreed to betray Jesus was thirty argente, or according to the Open Bible \$52.80. If this is the true amount, the story shows how deep the love of money can reach.

(2) The betrayal may have been out of bitter hatred or complete disillusionment. Judas may have thought Jesus was going to lead a rebellion against Rome and when the way of the cross was shown as Jesus' way, he turned against Him. Out of bitter disappointment Judas' devotion may have turned to disillusionment, then to hatred. The hatred may have driven him to seek the death of the man from whom he had expected so much.

(3) It may be that Judas never intended Jesus to die. He may have thought that Jesus was proceeding too slowly. So he tried to force Jesus' hand compelling Him to act.

The tragedy of Judas was that he refused to accept Jesus as He was, and tried to make Jesus what he wanted Him to be. We need to learn that we cannot use Jesus for our purposes. We must submit to Him. Judas thought he knew more than God.

Why Did Judas Kiss Jesus?  
When Judas told the armed mob that he would indicate the man whom they had come to arrest with a kiss, he used the word for kiss that was a normal eastern custom. But when Judas actually did kiss Jesus, the word the writer used was a word for a lover's kiss. He kissed Jesus repeatedly, passionately, and fervently.

The people who came to arrest Jesus knew who He was and how He looked. All they were looking for was a convenient opportunity to arrest Him.

The kiss became a display. People have always recognized the mockery in this scene. Yet no disciple could greet the rabbi (teacher) until the master greeted him. Thus, Judas' sign may have been more than a signal to the mob, an open insult by which Judas repudiated his ties with Jesus.

Jesus responded to the kiss by calling him "Friend." They had shared life's experiences for a long time. How Jesus was reminding Judas that he had violated the ties of comradeship.



MISSISSIPPI BSU DIRECTOR Ralph Winders (center) confers with Seminary President Landrum Leavell (right) and Udell Smith, Louisiana BSU director during a luncheon at the state BSU directors on the campus of the New Orleans Seminary. Winders, director, Department of student work, MBCB, was elected secretary-treasurer of the State Student Directors' Association during the group's annual meeting in New Orleans, February 6-9.

Jewell (Mrs. John A.) Abernathy, emeritus Southern Baptist missionary, died at Hot Springs, Ark., Feb. 16 as a result of a heart attack. She was 81 years old. The funeral service was held on Feb. 18. Mrs. Abernathy served as a missionary for 41 years in China, the Philippines and Korea. Her husband died in 1973.

Larry Salter and his wife, Connie, have a new daughter, born February 22. Susan Leigh weighed 9 pounds and 10 ounces at birth. The Salters live at 74 Fern Valley Road, Brandon. They have two sons.

### Names In The News

Jimmy Slay of Clinton has been awarded the Edgar Evans Scholarship at Mississippi College for the current school year. The scholarship is awarded each year to a married ministerial student adjudged by the scholarship committee of the faculty to be worthy and in need of financial assistance. Slay is assistant to the pastor at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton.

D. W. Green, pastor of Edwards Church, has been selected to appear in the second edition of Who's Who in Religion. Green has been pastor of Edwards Church for three and one-half years. The church celebrated its centennial last year. E. I. Farr



of Mississippi College wrote a history of the church. The members gave the largest amount in history to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in 1976. The offering surpassed \$1,600. Green is a graduate of William Carey College and Southwestern Seminary.



Jim Vance and family were honored at a reception on the tenth anniversary of their faithful service to Calvary Church, Starkville. The people of Starkville and members of Calvary presented them with a new 1977 Chrysler. During the past ten years Vance has baptized over 300 into membership at Calvary and has welcomed over 1000 other additions. Pictured: Jim Vance, holding Traci; Mrs. Beth Vance; Dale on left and Darin on right.



Laura Myers, freshman, poses with her benefactor, Elise Curtis of Gulfport. Laura is the first to receive a new scholarship established at Carey College. Laura, (whose young life has taken her from Boyle, Mississippi, to Vietnam with her missionary parents; to Decatur, Georgia, where her father is now involved in serving displaced Vietnamese in the United States; to Hattiesburg) has been awarded the Elise Curtis Scholarship for 1976-77. Mrs. Curtis, a graduate of Carey when it was Mississippi Woman's College in 1928, has been actively involved in the William Carey College Alumni Association for years. She set up the Curtis Scholarship to be a perpetual aid to worthy students, with one recipient selected each year.

Ida (Mrs. H. L.) Stanley, mother of Robert L. Stanley who is director of the Foreign Mission Board's news and information services, died at Denton, Texas Feb. 17 of pneumonia. She was 86 years old.



Mrs. Zella Raney was guest of honor at a reception at Friendship East Church near Charleston, when she retired as church treasurer after 20 years of service. The church gave her a family Bible and a watch. J. G. Thomas is pastor.

### Devotional

## Trees That Talk

By Bobby C. Perry, Pastor, First, Moss Point

Many of you will remember that during earlier years of television Mr. Ed, the talking horse was a very popular comedy series. It was a series of delightful episodes with Mr. Ed always getting his owner into difficult situations because no one would believe a horse could talk.

Now horses are not the only things that talk. Trees talk — not in the sense that Mr. Ed did, but there is a manner in which they walk in the Scripture by what they portray about life.

Throughout the study of biblical history it is particularly significant to notice the use of the tree. In the Garden of Eden man was told that there were trees he could eat from, and a single tree from which he could not eat. The tree on which Jesus was crucified became a source of life for us and a place of execution for Him.

Note the significance of three trees mentioned in the Bible: A CORRUPT TREE — "Even so, every good tree bringeth forth good fruit, but a corrupt tree bringeth forth bad fruit" (Matthew 7:17). Jesus later said to His disciples, "Ye shall know them by their fruits."

Adam and Eve started this problem by their disobedience in the Garden. Paul indicates something of the problem of living in this house of sin even after conversion when he says, "When I would do good, evil is present."

A BARREN TREE Portrays an empty profession. In Matthew 21:19 Jesus illustrated the truth of this to His disciples as He discussed the barren fig tree. Faith, answered prayer, and works were all missing.

A PLANTED TREE — The psalmist describes such a tree, "And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season..." (Psalm 1:3).

The experience of a walk with God that results in fruitfulness is seen here. The by-product of this life is the others who come into the kingdom of God.

I am sure you would resent being placed in the category of a tree, but it is not true that one or more of these mentioned trees could well describe your spiritual condition? Do you find sin continually plaguing you and are you unable to cope with it? Could it be that your life is sinful and that you are as a corrupt tree needing the Balm of Gilead to heal your sin-sick soul?

You can and should be a planted tree, stable and showing forth Christ in your life. As this characterizes your life you will be fruitful and bring others to Him.

Jesus knew what Judas was doing because he said, "Be quick about it."

How Did Judas React?

The curious thing is that from the moment of the kiss Judas vanished from the scene, not to reappear until he was bent to suicide. Judas saw the horror of the thing he had done. He took the money back to the temple. They refused to take the money so he flung it at them and went away and hanged himself.

The Scriptures say that "he repented himself." The word "repent" means be sorry afterward. Guilt and remorse rocked Judas. When he saw what he had done he despised himself and acted accordingly.

Cut off from his friends and Jesus — what could Judas do? The same thing he had done to Jesus — destroy! The word for "hanged himself" meant to strangle or hang by the neck until dead. So Judas sought to escape himself.

The most terrible thing about sin is that we cannot put the clock back. We cannot undo what we have done. We need to remember that no action can ever be recalled. It should make us to

be doubly careful how to act.

Sin is strange. A man can come to hate the very thing he gains by sin. Most people sin because they think it will make them happy. But that which sin desires can become that which a man above all the world would rid himself of — but he cannot.

The story of Judas has been a burden to Christians. How do you explain how one of the followers of Jesus could do such a thing as betray the Lord? We cannot dodge it or deny it. It must be told because many Judases have arisen. Judas was a tragic, not an honorable, man.

Judas was the sign of the sinfulness of man and man's capacity for doing wrong.

Every time we seek to use God to further selfish ambitions or schemes is a step along the way Judas took. To try to manipulate God is to invite the end that Jesus chose. You need to identify the motivations and pressures that lead a person to try to manipulate God and, thus, betray Christ. Can you betray Christ today? Do you betray your friends?